Daily Report

Latin America

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Mercosur Presidential Summit To Be Held 1 Jul

Paraguayan Minister on Expectations

PY3006135593 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 29 Jun 93 p 19

[Text] Industry and Commerce Minister Ubaldo Scavone yesterday stated that he expects tough negotiations during the ministers meeting within the Mercosur [Common Market of the South] presidential summit to be held on 1 July in Asuncion.

"There is a very broad agenda. The first subject for discussion is the standardization of macroeconomic guidelines, then the quest for a common policy on intellectual property and technology rights, and finally the common foreign tariff," the minister said.

He added that local negotiators will propose that the final stages of the negotiations on tariff reduction, including a survey of the list of exceptions by 1 January 1995, be accompanied by the elimination of the additional and disloyal incentives that Brazil imposes on its exports through the exchange subsidy. Moreover, Brazil's delay in its economic stabilization program will also be discussed.

The minister added that similar issues will be discussed with the Argentine representatives. Scavone believes an initial agreement will be achieved on these great issues.

Concerning the common foreign tariff, which requires special discussion, Scavone said that the Paraguayan proposal remains unchanged from the very beginning, on a scale of 0, 5, 10, and 15 percent. Thus, he said that no imposition whatsoever will be accepted by our partners, which suggested a common extra-zone tariff of 20 and 35 percent.

The ministers will also consider 10 percent of the products on the lists of exceptions that have a differentiated common foreign tariff and one internal regional tariff. This implies that by 1995 there will not be a single foreign tariff nor a fully operational free trade zone, as provided for in the treaty.

This possibility will be considered by the four Mercosur presidents who will meet on Wednesday [as published] in Asuncion, Paraguay, and who will decide on the matter at this summit.

This exercise has been devised by Subgroup-10 as a possible alternative to comply with the established deadline, leaving aside the very sensitive products within this system of exceptions, in order to solve the very urgent problems in the member countries.

Presidents Speak at Inaugural Session

PY0107201393

[Editorial Report] Asuncion Radio and Television Network in Spanish at 1500 GMT on 1 July carries the inaugural session of the Common Market of the South, Mercosur, meeting at the Central Bank auditorium and the speeches by the four Mercosur member countries' presidents.

Paraguayan Foreign Minister Alexis Frutos Vaesken opens the session and invites President Andres Rodriguez to the podium.

In an 11-minute speech Rodriguez says: "The Paraguayan people and Government have the great honor of welcoming the illustrious heads of state of the Argentine Republic, the Federative Republic of Brazil, and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay."

Rodriguez says: "Your presence here honors us because it is recognition of the efforts made by the Paraguayan people in the past four years living in full democracy." The president says the occasion is especially significant for him because he participated in the creation of the Asuncion Treaty establishing Mercosur in March 1991, and because this is "the last Mercosur meeting in which I will participate as head of state."

Rodriguez adds that Paraguay "understands the difficulties facing our brotherly partners in implementing a market economy without subsidies, without inflation, and without fiscal deficits." The Paraguayan president adds: "We understand the difficulties to fully harmonize our macroeconomic policies for 1995," but we must continue even if we "must make the other variables such as the common external tariff system or the automatic reduction of duties on our more sensitive products more flexible."

Rodriguez says there are no doubts that together we can accomplish our regional integration, adding that "in a few more days I will retire to the peace of my home with the satisfaction of having fulfilled my duty. Paraguay is today a democratic country that respects human rights in a peaceful and free environment."

In a nine-minute speech, Uruguayan President Luis Alberto Lacalle says that "in 1991 we signed the Asuncion Treaty, expressing our political commitment to carry it out as a regional project," adding that "the most difficult period was thus started" because reality is much more difficult than political willingness to accomplish integration. Lacalle says the Mercosur "spirit is intact, the willingness is clear and strong, and dates and terms are unchangeable" even though we might have "to make concessions."

Lacalle adds that Mercosur will continue to "encourage domestic change" and exert a beneficial influence on member countries. Lacalle says: "If democratic legitimacy cannot be complemented with government efficacy" we would have come only halfway, adding that "democracies have the responsibility to prepare their countries for integration."

Lacalle says that today "we do not have more or less hurry than we had before. We will fulfill the Asuncion

Treaty's schedule, respecting reality." Lacalle concludes by praising Rodriguez for "opening the doors of his country to a new era."

In an 11-minute speech, Argentine President Carlos Menem says: "We are convinced of the benefits of the program we have launched in Argentina in the political, economic, and social areas since 1989." Menem adds that "the opening of markets will permit us to increase the competitiveness of our enterprises, assuring economic growth with social justice for our people." Menem adds that "Mercosur is also the child of our geography and our common history" and that today "we are not facing future deadlines of uncertain possibilities."

Menem says: "Internal trade between our countries will reach $8 billion this year, or a 200-percent increase since the signing of the Asuncion Treaty."

Menem adds that our growing joint participation in international forums improves our negotiating capacity, adding: "We conceive Mercosur as a productive platform to project ourselves into the world and not as a fortress perpetuating our inefficiencies."

Menem adds: "We have approved regulations for a joint defense against dumping practices or subsidies on imports from countries outside Mercosur," as well as the protocol on "juridical security" for solving controversies. Menem concludes by praising Rodriguez for achieving "freedom and democracy for his people."

In a six-minute speech in Portuguese, Brazilian President Itamar Franco says: "Paraguay is going through a very positive moment in its political history. The election of Juan Carlos Wasmosy confirms the Paraguayan people's willingness to live within the difficult, but irreplaceable democratic system."

Franco says: "Social conflicts cannot be repressed with state violence. The state must seek to conciliate ideas and interests through a patient democratic dialogue. The plurality of ideas and parties warms the spirit of nations where dictatorships only achieve ephemeral and false successes."

Franco adds: "The four nations meeting here form a group of peoples determined to build solid democratic systems," adding that we "are not only building a common market, we are establishing an area of harmonious coexistence in this part of America and the world."

Franco adds: "Brazil is assuming the task of recovering its economic growth, without inflation, and consolidating its democracy with courage and determination," adding: "The Brazilian Government reiterates its determination to implement the Asuncion Treaty, its objectives and goals."

Franco concludes by saying: "There is no turning back;" these and other meetings have been useful to know us better and "to link our nations to a common destiny" because we are convinced "continental integration is the unavoidable destiny of our countries."

Issue Communique

PY0207224193 Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish 2 Jul 93 pp 6, 7

[Text] Communique by the presidents of the Republic of Argentina, the Federative Republic of Brazil, the Republic of Paraguay, and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay.

Asuncion, 1 July

1. In accordance with Article 11 of the Asuncion Treaty, the Common Market of the South [Mercosur] Council, made up of the foreign and economy ministers, held its fourth meeting on 1 July in Asuncion, Republic of Paraguay, with the participation of Presidents Carlos Saul Menem, Itamar Franco, Andres Rodriguez, and Luis Alberto Lacalle Herrera. Other Mercosur ministers and members also attended the meeting.

2. The presidents specifically pointed out the great progress made in the gradual and automatic Commercial Liberation Program, emphasizing that as of today the minimum tariff reduction among the parties is 75 percent of the current tariffs and that the 100-percent preference already has reached many products. This has contributed decisively to the substantial increase registered within Mercosur, trade that will reach $8 billion this year. This consolidates Mercosur with regard to integrationist experience and establishes the basis for the formation of a Customs House Union and the improvement of Mercosur on the timetable established in the Asuncion Treaty.

3. They also pointed out the considerable progress made in defining the Common External Tariff, especially the high number of chapters in the tariff nomenclature that—it was said—can be brought into agreement with each other.

4. On this occasion, the Mercosur Executive Board adopted the following decisions:

Decision 1: Adjustment of the timetable for the measures adopted in Las Lenas [Argentina].
Decision 2: Notification on Technical Regulations.
Decision 3: Support for the Common Market Group's Administrative Secretariat.
Decision 4: Procedure for attending meetings and approving documents.
Decision 5: Recife Agreement on Custom Matters.
Decision 6: Sanitation Agreement.
Decision 7: Regulation for defense against imports affected by dumping [preceding word in English] or subsidies from countries that are not Mercosur members.

5. They said the coming into force of the Brasilia Protocol for the solution of controversies on 24 April, after it was approved by the four countries' congresses, is a cornerstone that establishes the necessary legal guarantees for all the parties involved in the conformation of Mercosur.

6. By reaffirming the deadlines and objectives of the Asuncion Treaty, the presidents reiterated that the Las Lenas schedule represents an important commitment to fulfill Article 5, Clause B, of the Asuncion Treaty, which says that one of the main instruments will be the coordination of macroeconomic policies to be made gradually and in a coordinated manner with the programs of tariff reduction and the elimination of non-tariff restrictions.

In this regard they expressed satisfaction with the high level of fulfillment of the Las Lenas schedule, indicating that the adjustments now clarify the tasks for better implementation of the schedule.

7. They said that the approval on this occasion of the Regulation Against Unfair Trade Practices to go into effect on 1 January 1995 is important progress in the coordination of Mercosur members' trade policies and a positive effort to guarantee healthy competition.

8. They emphasized the approval today of the Mercosur Sanitary and Phytosanitary Agreement, which will allow increased trade in agricultural and livestock products in Mercosur through the rules imposed for the implementation of sanitary and phytosanitary measures that go along with international guidelines on this subject.

9. The presidents and the Mercosur Executive Board also considered the tasks to be carried out to improve the Common Market as of 1 January 1995.

10. They expressed their most profound concern about the evolution of the Uruguay Round of GATT and the escalation of subsidies and protectionist measures adopted by the largest world economies. They reiterated once again the great importance of the consolidation of a multilateral system of free trade for the growth of the Mercosur countries' economies and the well-being of their people, for which it is necessary to find a prompt and equitable conclusion to the Uruguay Round.

11. They saw with satisfaction the results of the agreement in the 4+1 Meeting (Mercosur-United States) held in Washington on 20 May, and they made a commitment to continue to study the necessary measures for allowing the free development of trade within GATT and the elimination of agricultural subsidies, which are the necessary elements for moving toward a greater liberalization and growth of hemispheric trade.

12. They emphasized the importance of beginning the implementation of the first stage of the Nonreimbursable Technical Cooperation Agreement signed with the BID [Inter-American Development Bank], which will allow incorporating almost 100 experts from the four countries in the Mercosur's technical work in a few days. They also noted with satisfaction the important cooperation projects defined within the Interinstitutional Agreement with the EC, whose implementation recently began.

13. They also expressed satisfaction with the growing interest shown by the WIPO [World Intellectual Property Organization], the ILO [International Labor Organization], the UNDP [UN Development Program], the UNIDO [UN Industrial Development Organization], the FAO [UN Food and Agriculture Organization], the OAS, and Fonplata [River Plate Basin Development Fund].

14. They expressed satisfaction with the achievements made in educational integration and cooperation in successive meetings by the education ministers, especially the one held on 30 June in Asuncion, when a commitment was signed to adopt soon an equivalent study system at the primary and secondary levels.

15. They also expressed their satisfaction with the work carried out by the four countries' legislators within the Mercosur Joint Parliamentary Commission.

Mercosur Regional Education Coordinators Meeting Begins 28 Jun

PY3006011493 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 29 Jun 93 p 25

[Excerpts] Seeking to draft a letter of intent that will be signed by the Mercosur [Common Market of the South] education ministers, the Seventh Regional Education Coordinators Meeting began yesterday. The four Mercosur countries are represented, as are the OAS, UNESCO, UNICEF, IDB [Inter-American Development Bank], and the UN. [passage omitted]

"An Important Stage Has Been Completed"

Paraguayan Education Minister Horacio Galeano Perrone opened the meeting. He said this meeting marks the completion of a fairly important stage of this process, involving hopes for advancement toward integration.

Galeano said that it is not an easy task and that there are more demanding challenges ahead. Nevertheless, he said that the Mercosur countries are sure they have valuable technical resources and personnel with substantial experience in educational activities. He added that these countries have an irrevocable will to serve the millions of children and youths who are a current concern and a commitment to guarantee the future of our continent.

In conclusion, he asked the representatives to establish well-defined paths for the common task of integration through constantly renewed education systems.

Air Force Commanders Congress Begins in Chile

PY0607021593 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 5 Jul 93

[Text] The transition still demands actions of humility and generosity to attain the much-desired reconciliation, Defense Minister Patricio Rojas told the air force commanders of the American continent today. As he dedicated the 13th Congress of Air Force Commanders in the

Diego Portales building, the defense minister reminded them they are meeting in a country that lives in peace, democracy, and development:

[Begin recording] Our institutions are working within a framework of a state of law. The economy is growing under a principle of freedom with clear, permanent, and stable rules. Social justice is the priority objective of our effort as a state and government. The consolidation of a civilized coexistence has become a tangible accomplishment thanks to the joint effort of all Chileans. Our transition still demands from us, however, actions of humbleness and generosity to attain the much desired reconciliation. [end recording]

The air force commanders of 18 countries from the American continent are attending this congress, whose work sessions will be carried out in the San Cristobal-Sheraton Hotel through 11 July. At the opening meeting, Minister Rojas pointed out the Chilean Air Force's [FACh] concentration in its professional work:

[Begin recording] Its active participation in joint tasks, its presence during 18 months in the Unicom peace mission in the Gulf, flying more than 300 hours monthly in the versatile—I would say incredible—UH helicopters, and its flexibility in adjusting to the new institutional stage the country is living through are the characteristics of our Air Force, which the citizenry recognizes and thanks, and corresponds to a high degree of public trust. [end recording]

Rojas then described FACh Commander General Ramon Vega as a great institutional conductor of great human quality, and a good pilot.

The opening of the 13th Congress of Air Force Commanders of the American continent was attended by foreign generals and Chilean Senate and lower house representatives, besides the under secretaries of the different national defense branches.

Southern Cone Communications Network To Begin 1 Jul

PY3006144593 Asuncion TIEMPO 14 in Spanish 30 Jun 93 p 3

[Text] The Southern Cone Communications Network [Red Cono Sur de Comunicaciones] will begin to operate on 1 July. Montevideo Radio Carve of Uruguay, Santiago Radio Cooperativa of Chile, Porto Alegre Radio Gaucha of Brazil, Buenos Aires Radio Mitre of Argentina, and Asuncion Radio Nanduti of Paraguay are the radio stations that make up the network.

This undertaking began with the creation of the Common Market of the South [Mercosur] and seeks to integrate South American peoples, especially the countries mentioned above.

TIEMPO 14 expresses its wishes for success to the radio stations that make up the network and hopes that it will serve as a bridge to unite all South Americans.

Cuba

Border Guards Capture U.S.-Registered Speedboat Carrying Illegal Immigrants

FL0207182593 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 2 Jul 93

[Text] On the evening of 1 July, Interior Ministry border guards captured a U.S.-registered speedboat named Midnight Express when the vessel violated Cuban territorial waters north of Cojimar to pick up a group of individuals who were waiting on shore to be taken to the United States.

Shots were fired during the operation and several people were wounded, three fatally. The dead have been identified as Alfredo Evelio Caballin Marin and Loamis Gonzalez Mansini. Efforts are being made to identify the third person positively.

Among those wounded is a member of the Midnight Express crew who claims to be a U.S. citizen. He said his name is Rick Robert Hoddynott and that he lives in Key West, Florida. He said that he was receiving a large sum of money for each person he took to the United States.

The Cuban authorities said they informed the United States of the situation, pointing out again the serious consequences that arise from the policy of encouraging illegal departures from the country.

The press release denounces the profits made by certain unscrupulous individuals living in the United States from individuals in Cuba who are trying to travel to that country and are prevented from doing legally by limitations imposed by U.S. authorities.

Witnesses Cited on Confrontations

PA0307022693 Paris AFP in Spanish 0134 GMT 3 Jul 93

[Excerpt] Havana, 3 Jul (AFP)—Violent confrontations took place on 2 July between residents of Cojimar (near Havana) and Cuban security forces that were trying to prevent the escape of some 12 Cubans aboard a U.S. boat, several witnesses of the events have told AFP. An Interior Ministry communique had previously reported that three persons died and several were wounded when the border guards foiled the escape to the United States.

According to the witnesses, who agreed to talk provided their identities were not released, there could be many more casualties. The witnesses reported that at about 2300 on 1 July the border guards detected off the coast of Cojimar the "Midnight Express" speedboat that had just picked up 12 to 15 persons with plans to leave illegally for the United States.

The patrol, made up of three to four guards, immediately opened fire with automatic weapons and wounded several persons on board, most of them from Sancti Spiritus (380 km east of Havana), who had traveled to Cojimar, one of the points closest to the U.S. coast, with plans to escape from the island.

Several hundred local residents then rushed toward the coast, throwing stones at the border guards and shouting antigovernment slogans, the witnesses reported. A guard was seriously injured in the head, the same sources added. The riot forces arrived shortly thereafter in Cojimar, firing their automatic weapons into the air. Nonetheless, several bullets reportedly hit private homes.

Order again prevails on the afternoon of 2 July in Cojimar, which is being patrolled by the security forces. [passage omitted]

Speedboat Incident Viewed

FL0307000993 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 2 Jul 93

[Station editorial by Orlando Contreras]

[Text] Cuban-U.S. relations have been poisoned for over 30 years, basically due to unilateral decisions of a frankly aggressive nature by successive U.S. Administrations. During the Carter government there was a certain political will on the part of the administration to slacken tensions, and, in keeping with the UN Charter and international law, to seek, through bilateral negotiations, a climate of detente.

The successive Republican Governments that preceded the current U.S. Administration raised the terms of the confrontation and the aggressiveness of the policy against Cuba to hitherto unheard-of levels.

The current government of President William Clinton, without dismantling the tangled skein of anti-Cuban dispositions, has not adopted new ones and, in substantive terms, has made a public announcement to the effect that it will not let U.S. coasts be used to perpetrate activities against Cuba—without naming the country—that infringe on U.S. laws.

An event that constitutes a challenge to that disposition, as well as to the rules of international law respecting sovereignty and territorial integrity of nations, including their off-shore waters, has just occured.

A U.S. speedboat, the "Midnight Express," violated Cuban territorial waters with the intention of taking Cuban citizens to the United States. The speedboat was intercepted, and upon failing to obey orders to stop because it was in Cuban territorial waters, a shootout ensued during which three people were killed and others wounded. Among the wounded is U.S. citizen Ricky Wobert Hoddynott, who said he lives in Key West and that as a crewmember of the speedboat, he was offered a certain amount of money, in dollars, for each Cuban citizen he took out of the country illegally.

Those Cuban citizens who wish to emigrate to the United States can do so by complying with the dispositions of the Republic of Cuba regarding emigration. Thousands of them, however, are unable to get visas to enter the United States.

This kind of illegal action, which, according to the U.S. State Department's declaration, also infringes on the laws of the United States of America, is being perpetrated for profit or a desire to muddy any attempt between the two countries to rechannel political behavior between the two countries within the framework of law and mutual respect.

Cuba has confirmed its willingness to establish preliminary contacts or negotiations with U.S. authorities on the sole condition that these contacts or negotiations be held within a climate [plano] of equality and mutual respect, as prescribed by the UN Charter and international law.

This type of illegal action— the case of the speedboat Midnight Express —infringes on the laws of the United States as much as it does on those of Cuba.

Border Guards Intercept 'Another' Speedboat

FL0307135393 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 3 Jul 93

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] At 0350 on 2 July another speedboat with two outboard motors was detected two miles north of Havana. Two units of the Interior Ministry border guard troops pursued and intercepted the boat. The four-member crew are of Cuban origin who live in the United States and acknowledge violating Cuban territorial waters to smuggle people into the United States. The crew members were not injured and are being subjected to standard interrogation. They gave their names as: David Barrios Martinez; Jose Javier Gutierrez Mojena; Jose Antonio Rodriguez Llanes; and Aurelio Martin Gonzalez.

The Border Guard Troops promptly informed the Miami Coast Guard Service of this violation of Cuban territorial waters.

U.S. Immigration Policy Viewed

PA0407191093 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Jul 93

[Commentary by Roberto Morejon]

[Text] U.S. Administrations have encouraged illegal departures from Cuba for their value in casting doubt over the Cuban revolution in the eyes of world public opinion. Promoting such adventures often ends in tragic or violent results on the island or at sea. Many Cubans have perished in the Florida Straight in their search for the so-called American Dream.

On 1 July, Cuban border troops seized a speedboat registered in the United States after it violated Cuban territorial waters to meet and carry illegally a group of people to the United States. A human life was lost and people were wounded in the arrest operation.

Aside from the element of greed on the part of U.S. residents contributing to this violence, it is important to point out the role that U.S. immigration policy toward Cuba has played. Since 1959 the policy has been an important part of U.S. efforts to fight the socioeconomic system implemented that year. Those Cubans who immigrated were given a privileged status that allowed them to receive financial aid and assistance in integrating to U.S. society. Cubans venturing across the Florida Straight are welcomed with a grand celebration in exchange for their piercing statements against the Cuban revolution. No account is taken of whether or not they used violence to complete their trip.

Cuba has always wanted to regulate the migration issue. In 1989, Washington finally expressed a wish to negotiate with Havana. The two countries signed a normalization agreement, which was suspended temporarily when anti-Cuban radio transmissions began and reestablished in 1987. The United States, however, has not kept its part of the agreement by allowing an annual quota of 20,000 immigrants. Hence all those who have been waiting for years to leave or who were simply rejected turn to illegal means to travel.

The current Democratic administration inherited the official policy directed at blocking the legal flow of Cubans to the United States and encouraging an illegal flow. It is essential to apply the agreements that are in effect or to implement new policies acceptable to both nations.

Immigration 'Irregularities' Viewed

PA0607020193 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Jul 93

[Commentary by Roberto Morejon]

[Text] The illegal entry into Cuban waters of two vessels from the United States, whose crews intended to take back to the United States a group of Cubans, once more raises the subject of immigration irregularities.

Eight U.S. Administrations turned immigration affairs into a subversive political component and an instrument of aggression by interfering with the freedom of travel to the United States. At least up to the George Bush administration, no one in the White House mansion has been able to resist the temptation of encouraging the departure of impatient Cubans to escape Cuba's poverty, according to the myth spread by the West.

Aside from the fact that many who leave illegally try to find in the United States the assets Cuba lacks, the truth is that the manipulation by the U.S. authorities of existing immigration agreements acts as a springboard for the so-called rafters [balseros].

Traditionally, the U.S. interests section in Havana has not followed the quota of 20,000 Cuban immigrants stipulated by a bilateral agreement signed in 1984. Cuba, on its part, has tried to normalize immigration relations to ensure that Cubans who desire to leave can do so in strict order.

In 1987, Cuba again observed this agreement despite continued broadcasts by a subversive radio station. One year later Cuba broadened the agreement by allowing Cubans over the age of 65 residing in the United States to travel to Cuba for family reasons.

The revolutionary government included in this quota Cubans who departed after 1978 through the port Mariel, thus eliminating a previously existing limitation.

In 1990, Havana increased the number of people living in the United States who were allowed to travel to Cuba to 10,000 and allowed Cubans who left their country prior to 1959 to visit Cuba without any restriction.

Cuban authorities also reduced in the past few years the age of Cubans allowed to travel temporarily abroad. It now stands at 20.

Cuba also took back hundreds of the so-called excluded [excluibles]—a classification, which according to U.S. terminology, describes Cubans who could not adapt to U.S. society and who were jailed after committing crimes or simply because they were considered dangerous.

Such scrupulous behavior as this cannot be repaid with indifference or worse still, by encouraging the illegal transshipment of Cubans through the Florida Straits.

U.S. Blockade Said Reason for Deterioration of Living Standards

PA0207194193 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Commentary by Roberto Morejon]

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina reaffirmed in Geneva that a number of obstacles must be eliminated to improve international relations and promote the development of the peoples.

Speaking before the UN Economic and Social Council, he insisted that unfair exchange, foreign debt, protectionism, obstacles to the south's gaining market access, and coercive measures against poor nations must end.

Cuba is an example of the nefarious effects of the imposition of a rich country on the economy of an underdeveloped country. Social development in Cuba has confronted—and continues to do so with increased strength—the powerful obstacle of the economic, commercial, and financial blockade imposed by the United States over 30 years ago.

The recent world conference on human rights held in Austria urged all countries to respect international laws, the UN Charter, and free trade. But Washington continues to apply a policy as old as it is anachronistic.

The U.S. boycott deprives Cuba of economic and social development and directly affects Cubans' living standards as the country cannot acquire—or it is more difficult to do so—food, medicine, spare parts, and other basic goods.

The current U.S. Government inherited the blockade, which remains in place after having caused Cuba losses of almost $40 billion.

U.S. ambassadors, and other agents, continue to follow closely Cuba's commercial operations and businessmens' plans to invest in Cuba to take advantage of the benefits offered for foreign capital.

Cuban President Fidel Castro said at the legislature during the week of 28 June that the United States is exerting great pressure on countries, enterprises, or individuals who wish to carry out commercial operations with Cuba to the point, he said, of discouraging nine of every 10 potential investors.

Surely if such sturdy fencing did not exist around Cuba this country would have already started operating dozens of factories that are at a standstill caused by a lack of raw materials and spare parts that were previously supplied by the former Socialist bloc.

The U.S. economic blockade and the dismemberment of that community are the basic reasons for the accelerated deterioration of Cubans' living standards.

Robaina Remarks on 'Hints' of Beginning of Understanding With U.S.

FL0207161593 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] The journalists who met with Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina this evening repeatedly returned to the matter of relations between Cuba and the United States. Robaina refused from the outset to confirm for the Italian press agency ANSA a report on an alleged secret trip by Robaina to New York in May at the head of a Ministry of Foreign Relations [Minrex] team.

Regarding alleged hints by both parties—Cuba and the United States—of the beginning of an understanding, the Cuban foreign minister said:

[Begin Robaina recording] I insist on saying, categorically, what I have said on all public occasions from the beginning: There is no reason whatsoever to be overly enthusiastic.

If it is a matter of gestures on the question that always arises—where the gestures are and what gestures we have seen—first of all, we are not desperately looking for them.

If, nevertheless, people want to term a gesture the fact that there has been a response that comes not exactly

from the new administration but from, for example, scientists, and medical personnel interested in the neuropathy that is endemic in Cuba; if anybody wants to see a gesture in a public statement by the State Department condemning anyone planning terrorist activities against the island from U.S. territory; obviously such things can constitute gestures and signals. But for us, obviously, there are things that go much farther than that.

At present, we are not a priority of the current administration of the United States.

It is one thing to say that we would be willing to talk with the United States and quite another to say that we are imploring and begging to talk to the United States.

We have stated our willingness, which stands today. [end recording]

Near the end of the news conference, the AFP correspondent returned to the microphones to ask about the objectives of a current visit to Cuba by former members of the U.S. Armed Forces, among whom are the former chief of the U.S. Sixth Fleet and Wayne Smith, former head of the U.S Interests Section in Cuba during the Carter administration.

[Begin Robaina recording] There are many spheres in which today we can exchange, hope, seek ideas, so as to see what might happen later. The number of hours and the conclusions reached, there is no....[pauses] There is no basis on which to draw any conclusion whatsoever considering the number of hours, how long they have been here. Let us not expect any results beyond a simple exchange of ideas, concepts, opinions, and assessments of our [words indistinct].

There are no joint documents, no joint agreements, no proposals, none of these things. We think that is something greatly needed today with regard to the Cuba-United States issue. Obviously, should a delegation including retired military officers come, they must also be willing to receive representatives from our own Armed Forces. We do not want them to receive only our retired representatives; we would like them to receive, as well, some active officers who can explain the true reality to them; that is, if they want to have (?proper) information. [end recording]

Remaining Members of Soviet Brigade Depart 2 Jul

FL0307180593 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 3 Jul 93

[Text] On 2 July, the remaining members of the Soviet Independent Motorized Infantry Brigade, who have been positioned in Cuba since 1962, boarded a ship named the Yuri Gagarin. The departure of these soldiers fulfills the September 1992 accords between Cuba and the Russian Federation to withdraw the military contingent. The Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] officers, headed by Division General Ulises Rosales del Toro, first minister of the FAR and chief of the General Staff, as well as Brigade General Nestor Lopez Cuba, FAR political section chief, were present at the Jaifon Terminal in the port of Havana.

Economic Bilateral Talks With Russia Restart

FL0607002293 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 5 Jul 93

[Text] Cuba and Russia have restarted economic bilateral talks in Moscow aimed at operational aspects of the latest accords between both nations. The head of the Russian delegation, Oleg Soskovets, first vice premier of the Russian Government, told the Western press that both sides will also discuss the issue of joint enterprises since Cuba is in the midst of the process of attracting foreign investments. INTERFAX reported that today's talks with the head of the Cuban delegation, Lionel Soto, vice president of the Council of Ministers, are a continuation of the talks held in May in Havana during the visit of Vladimir Shumeyko, Russian first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers.

UJC Delegation Ends Visit to Chile

FL0307020893 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 2 Jul 93

[Text] Our country's Union of Young Communists [UJC] delegation today ended its visit to Chile after holding several meetings with representatives of various Chilean sectors and with prominent Chilean figures. UJC Second Secretary (Miguel Diaz Canel), who is heading the UJC delegation, expressed to the press his satisfaction with the ample solidarity toward Cuba exhibited by broad sectors of Chile's population. (Diaz) also said there is a thorough understanding of how unjust and anachronistic the U.S. economic embargo of Cuba is.

Havana, Barcelona Municipalities Sign Cooperation Protocol

FL0307022493 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 2 Jul 93

[Text] The Havana City municipality of La Habana Vieja and its counterpart of (Casteldelps), of Barcelona, Spain, have signed a protocol for mutually beneficial cooperation. The document, which includes a twinning between the two places, was signed by (Emilio Vega), People's Government president in La Habana Vieja Municipality and (Agustin Marin), mayor of the aforementioned Spanish region.

Solidarity Organization Notes DPRK Anniversary

FL0207172893 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] The Afro-Asian-Latin American People's Solidarity Organization [AALAPSO] sent a message of solidarity to the Korean people on the occasion of the

international solidarity conference [jornada] to be held on 25 through 27 July, which marks the anniversary of the [word indistinct] of the armistice that ended the bloody war in Korea 40 years ago.

In his speech, AALAPSO Secretary General Rene Anillo said that the democratic forces for social progress and world peace remember those events that have been inscribed in contemporary history. Furthermore, Anillo highlighted Korea's current struggle for its peaceful reunification and its independence:

[Begin Anillo recording] Korea struggles for its peaceful reunification, its independence, and for the strenthening of its national [word indistinct]. These causes are just and and are backed by he sympathy and support of all peoples. On behalf of the AALAPSO executive secretariat, we ask comrade (Pak) to express to the Korean people our message of fraternal solidarity and our trust that the cause for the Korean unity will be victorious. [end recording]

(Pak Myong-hu), an advisor to the DPRK Embassy in Havana, expressed his appreciation for Cuba's support on this occasion. He highlighted the close ties between the two peoples.

[Begin (Pak) recording] The AALAPSO and the Cuban people and government, who love justice and peace, give their support and solidarity to our people's struggle for the peace and the reunification of the country. I would like to take advantage of this opportunity to express our great appreciation to the AALAPSO, the Communist Party of Cuba, and the people and Government of Cuba, who send their strong support and solidarity to the struggle of our people for the sake of the socialist [word indistinct] and the reunification of the country. [end recording]

Castro Thanks Students on Decision To Work in Fields

FL0307181993 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 3 Jul 93

["Text" of a letter by President Castro to the students of the Jose Antonio Echevarria Higher Polytechnic Institute]

[Text] I have read with pleasure the letter in which you expressed your decision to work in the fields at the end of the present university year and join the Students Labor Brigades. I congratulate you and express my warmest appreciation. I have no need to repeat the great importance of the contributions you will be making in the next few weeks. The difficult conditions under which we find ourselves forced to live as a result of the blockade and the disappearance of our traditional economic ties have joined in the last months the disastrous effects of adverse weather that has affected almost the entire nation, as you know quite well.

For agriculture in general, and the food program in the Havana Provinces in particular, the fastest possible recovery is a top strategic priority that will only be fulfilled with the decisive and committed participation of tens of thousands of men and women willing to once more exert a new measure of heroism. You confirm that whatever sacrifice is made to guarantee the irreversible survival of our work of social transformation and development, which has actually been effected for you and all those who like you are part of the beautiful youth of Cuba, will never be in vain.

With youth such as you, it is possible to win any struggle. I thank you for the commitment you have expressed and I urge you to once again carry on high the flag of the University Students Federation and the immortal name your school bears.

Let these be the most disciplined, enthusiastic, and productive Student Labor Brigades. Our people need the effort that youths such as you, with your will, vigor, and energy, are capable of making.

Sincerely, Fidel Castro Ruz.

Lage Warns of 'More Limitations' in Next 6 Months

FL0307141493 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 3 Jul 93

[Text] Carlos Lage, secretary of the executive committee of the Council of Ministers and member of the Politburo, has affirmed that Cuba will face the next six months with more limitations of every kind, but we can work and overcome them. Lage participated in a meeting of leaders of provincial and the Isle of Youth Assemblies of the People's Government where major changes during this school year were discussed, as well as measures taken to guarantee the next. Other essential issues were also discussed such as the situation with medicine, herbal medicine, and family doctor programs.

The meeting was attended by Politburo members Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, Maria de los Angeles Garcia, and Ricardo Alarcon, president of the National Assembly of the People's Government. Commander in Chief Fidel Castro attended the meeting briefly during the morning session.

Ross Urges Mass Support of Revolution

FL0307001593 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 2 Jul 93

[Text] Pedro Ross Leal, secretary general of the CTC [Cuban Workers Federation], has called on the working class to support the measures aimed at preserving the revolution. Ross was interviewed for this newscast by journalist Carlos Sanabia Marrero.

[Sanabia] We Cuban workers must be ready to support however many measures it may be necessary to take, regardless of the sacrifices this might entail and the

things we may have to (?undo) so as not to have to (?undo) the revolution, all we have built, and all we have accomplished, declared Pedro Ross here in Santiago de Cuba]to the national radio newscast. Ross is a member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba and secretary general of the CTC.

[Begin recording] [Ross] We have to be able to say to Fidel that our workers are going to be wise, are going to be smart enough to take whatever position needs be taken to defend the accomplishments of the revolution.

[Sanabia] Is it to be understood, from your words, that there will be certain strategic changes made to preserve the achievements of the revolution?

[Ross] Well, Fidel announced at the National Assembly—and the assembly's very call on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the revolution, makes allusion to the fact—that in view of the difficulties we are confronting, in view of the new juncture we are facing, in view of the realities we are confronting, such as the disappearance of the socialist bloc and the disappearance of the Soviet Union, our country will have to take measures, make changes, find ways to tackle, the task of production, the task of development in Cuba, the way it is already doing, in tourism, and in nickel, as was explained there—and other measures will be adopted, measures of an economic and social nature in which the role of the masses, their understanding, will be of great importance. [end recording]

[Sanabia] That was Pedro Ross, CTC secretary general, on working class support for measures necessary to preserve the revolution, what it has built, and what it has accomplished.

This is the National Radio Newscast, in Santiago de Cuba 24 days before the 40th anniversary [of the attack on the Moncada Garrison].

Hospital Ward Created for Children With Cystic Neuritis

FL0307162793 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1155 GMT 3 Jul 93

[Excerpt] During the fifth provincial pediatrics meeting, which began on 2 July at the Manuel Marquez Hospital in Havana, it was stressed that fewer than 80 children have been diagnosed with epidemic neuropathy in Cuba. Most of the children have the peripheral form of this illness and are being treated with a balanced diet and vitamins. The few cases being seen are being hospitalized in order to provide the correct therapy before returning home. At the Marianao Pedriatic Hospital, a ward for children with epidemic neuropathy has been temporarily set up.

Pediatrician Joaquin Pascual pointed out that the vitamins being distributed to the population have significantly reduced the cases of epidemic neuropathy. The vitamins do not have any aftereffects, nor has it been proven that there are toxic elements in the food being distributed to children which might cause the illness. [passage omitted]

* Increase in Home Deliveries Reported

93P20198A

[Editorial Report] Havana GRANMA in Spanish of 10 June 1993 on page 2 reports that nearly 25 percent of homes in Havana City are receiving home deliveries of groceries. The article reports that grocery stores and supermarkets serve 11.6 percent of the homes while the remainder are served by independent couriers. Recipients pay couriers 10 percent of the value of their purchases. The article explains that recommendations based on good service ensure the couriers' job security. The article explains further that 30,094 homes out of the 588,323 homes in Havana City are using the grocery bag plan, whereby customers leave a grocery bag and an order to be picked up at a convenient time.

* Charter Flights Begun, Tourism Promoted

93P20198B

[Editorial Report] Santa Fe de Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish of 10 June 1993 on page 5-b reports that on 18 June Cubana de Aviacion will begin charter flights to Havana leaving on Fridays. According to the article the flights are part of an "ambitious" tourism program promoted by the C.M. Tropican company, which is offering "various packages and discounted airline tickets." Omar Morales, Cuban consul in Colombia, explains that tourists must pay $18 for a tourist card available in tourist agencies or the consulate. The article reports that a round-trip ticket costs $350. A package tour consisting of seven nights and eight days costs $565.

Dominican Republic

* ONAPRES Reports on Revenues, Expenditures

* March 1993

93CA0139A Santo Domingo EL CARIBE in Spanish 30 Apr 93 pp 1, 4

[Text] Central Government revenues rose to 1.4539 billion pesos in March 1993, according to the National Budget Office (ONAPRES).

A report from ONAPRES says that 941.3 million pesos of the revenues received were allocated for investment.

Revenues during March were 5 million pesos more than those received during the month of February, which were 1.4489 billion pesos. In turn, February revenues were 55 million pesos more than those of January 1993.

The following is the complete text of the ONAPRES report:

"The National Budget Office, in the interest of informing the public regarding revenues and expenditures of the state for the month of March 1993, wishes to make known the details of that segment of budgetary activity.

"The strategy of the government, presided over by the most excellent president of the Republic, Doctor Joaquin Balaguer, establishes basic priorities in the distribution of public funds, assigned to the agricultural and livestock, irrigation, potable water, energy, health, and education sectors, without neglecting other essential aspects that contribute to the harmonious development and progress of the national economy.

"National revenues during the period under review amounted to 1,453,981,666.00 pesos, of which 941,327,276.57 pesos were allocated to investment.

"The agricultural and livestock, irrigation and energy sectors received the sum of 164,060,972.33 pesos. Separately, the National Institute of Water Resources (INDRHI) received 43,418,134.94 pesos for the construction and management of the Jiguey-Aguacate dams and the Sabaneta dam project, as well as for the construction and repair of canals, and the maintenance of other dams.

"The Dominican Electricity Corporation received 37,108,348.41 pesos to cover that institution's obligations, and to contribute to the improvement of our country's energy system.

"The Dominican Agrarian Institute (IAD) received 19,454,522.99 pesos to complete several projects and to finance various agricultural programs. The Agricultural Bank received 6,530,102.88 pesos to support small producers in Azua and purchase rice for use in the government's social programs. The Special Fund for Agricultural and Livestock Development (FEDA) received 2,184,514.52 pesos to improve programs in support of agricultural production and other related purposes; the La Cruz de Manzanillo project, 2,178,188.00 pesos to cultivate various farm crops; the State Secretariat of Agriculture received 18 million pesos for the Dairy Development Project in the Eastern Region, the State Sugar Council received 34 million pesos for the 1992-93 sugarcane harvest.

"The National Institute for Potable Water and Sewers received 34,549,151.35 to complete several projects.

"The Central Bank received 219 million pesos to pay on the national debt, and the president allocated 30 million pesos to offset currency depreciation in order to stabilize the national currency. The Corporation for Aqueducts and Sewers of Santo Domingo received 100,936,443.00 for the construction of the Valdesia-Santo Domingo aqueduct, the Cibao Central aqueduct, and other projects.

"Finally, the State Secretariat of Public Works and Communications received allotments in the amount of 312,754,136.26 pesos, the Office of Supervisory Engineers of State Projects received 53,097,384.27 pesos, and the Office for Coordination and Control of State Projects received 40 million pesos for the completion of projects and programs of social and economic importance throughout the Republic, such as housing projects, airports, ports, duty free zones, aqueducts, sanitary sewage, highways, local roads, and the maintenance of streets and historic monuments."

* April 1993

93CA0139B Santo Domingo EL CARIBE in Spanish 25 May 93 pp 1, 4

[Text] Central Government revenues during April 1993 rose to 1.6758 billion pesos according to an announcement yesterday, 24 May, by the National Budget Office (ONAPRES).

Of the revenues obtained during April, 1.0053 billion pesos were allocated for investment, according to the ONAPRES note.

Revenues during April were 221.9 million pesos more than during the previous month, when they reached 1,454,981,666.00 pesos.

The following is the complete text of the ONAPRES announcement, together with the details of the amounts allocated for investment purposes:

"The National Budget Office, in the interest of informing the public regarding the revenues and expenditures of the state for the month of April 1993, wishes to announce the details relating to that sector of budgetary activity.

"The strategy of the government presided over by the most excellent president of the Republic, Doctor Joaquin Balaguer, establishes basic priorities in the distribution of public funds assigned to the farming and livestock, irrigation, potable water, energy, health, and education sectors, while not neglecting other essential aspects that contribute to the harmonious development and progress of the national economy.

"National revenues during the period indicated amounted to 1,675,813,932.00 pesos, of which 1,005,365,959.00 pesos were allocated for investment.

"The farm and livestock, irrigation, and energy sectors received 222,907,307.97 pesos. Separately, the National Institute of Water Resources (INDRHI) received 143,164,258.42 pesos for the construction and management of the Jiguey-Aguacate dams and the Sabaneta dam project, as well as for the construction and repair of canals, and the maintenance of other dams.

"The Dominican Electricity Corporation received 38,086,083.19 pesos to cover that institution's obligations and to contribute to the improvement of our country's energy system.

"The Dominican Agrarian Institute (IAD) received 17,454,522.99 pesos to complete several projects and to finance various agricultural programs. The Agricultural Bank received 126,312,272.88 pesos to support small producers in Azua, purchase rice for use in social programs and finance cacao producers. The State Sugar Council received 30 million pesos for the 1992-93 sugarcane harvest and for the payment of tenant farmers.

"The National Institute for Potable Water and Sewers received 41,398,735.46 pesos to complete several projects.

"The Central Bank of the Republic received 151 million pesos for payment on the national debt, and the president allocated 31 million pesos to offset currency depreciation in order to stabilize the national currency. The Corporation of Aqueducts and Sewers of Santo Domingo received 100,936,443.33 for the construction of the Valdesia-Santo Domingo aqueduct, the Cibao Central aqueduct, and other projects.

"Finally, the State Secretariat of Public Works and Communications received allotments in the amount of 336,384,840.93 pesos, the Office of Supervisory Engineers of State Projects received 84,480,440.43 pesos, and the Office of Coordination and Control of State Projects received 45 million pesos for the completion of projects and programs of social and economic importance throughout the Republic, such as housing projects, airports, ports, duty-free zones, aqueducts, sanitary sewage, highways, local roads, and maintenance of streets and historic monuments."

Haiti

Coup Leaders Said To Accept Caputo Plan for Aristide Reinstatement

FL0207175293 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 2 Jul 93

[Text] A last-minute report confirms that, today, Haitian coup leaders accepted a plan proposed by UN mediator Dante Caputo for the reinstatement of deposed President Jean-Bertrand Aristide and the return to constitutionality in Haiti.

Draft Agreement Cited

FL0207201693 Port-au-Prince Radio Tropic FM in French 1030 GMT 2 Jul 93

[Report by Roosevelt Jean-Francois, New York—live]

[Text] Friday, 2 July, is the sixth day of the inter-Haitian negotiations on Governors Island. These negotiations between two delegations, led respectively by President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, and commander in chief of the Haitian Army, General Raoul Cedras, are underway this Friday on Governors Island where our special envoy, Roosevelt Jean-Francois, is communicating with us by phone. Bonjour, Roosevelt.

[Jean-Francois] Good morning, Sophia. The sun has not yet risen on Governors Island off New York Bay where the Haitian parties—via international mediation—have been trying for six years [as heard] to reach an agreement to resolve the political crisis caused by the 30 September 1991 military coup. The weather change has also given rise to a change of spokesman for the Army delegation. [words indistinct]

Serge Elie Charles, a member of Cedras' delegation, told journalists in front of the officers club that the delegation has accepted the global plan prepared by international mediator Dante Caputo, providing for the return of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide on 30 October.

We have received the draft agreement, stated Charles. We have no problem with it. We do, however, need to iron out small language and syntax details, he said. Charles was Haitian ambassador to the OAS under the government of Gen. Prosper Avril. Let us listen to an excerpt from Charles' statements.

[Begin recording] [Charles] We have studied this draft agreement meticulously, and overall, find it quite acceptable, although some details need to be resolved. We continue to work on this draft agreement and are certain that within the course of the day, will reach a final agreement. We hope that all parties—as we are willing to do—sincerely contribute to its enforcement, and that it will be to the advantage of the entire Haitian people. [end recording]

[Jean-Francois] The details of the global plan have not yet been made public, but Serge Elie Charles said that Gen. Cedras and his delegation have agreed that President Jean-Bertrand Aristide can return to the country on 30 October and that UN multinational technical assistance will be granted for the creation of a police force.

Asked by journalists about the stand of Haitian parliamentarians who contend that the Army delegation has no authority to sign an agreement, Serge Elie Charles said that there is no conflict with the parliament that gave Gen. Cedras a mandate to negotiate an agreement with President Jean-Bertrand via international mediation in order to get the country out of the crisis.

President Aristide's delegation arrived on Governors Island at about 1500 GMT. A source from this delegation told us that President Aristide has also agreed to this point [as heard]. Nevertheless, the 30 October date has not yet been agreed to. According to that source, the president would discuss precise details aimed at obtaining a global timetable for the execution of this plan. They should also end up with an exact date for the departure of Gen. Raoul Cedras and other officers at the head of the Army, the source said.

Roosevelt Jean-Francois for Tropic FM on Governors Island.

Aristide Said To Accept UN-OAS Plan

PA0307163093 Paris AFP in Spanish 1607 GMT 3 Jul 93

[Text] Governors Island, U.S., 3 Jul (AFP)—Toppled Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide has accepted the plan proposed by the United Nations and the OAS to restore him to power on 30 October and will sign it, a source close to the negotiations reported. Haitian Army Chief General Raoul Cedras, who ousted Aristide on 30 September 1991, signed the plan. Cedras left for Port-au-Prince immediately after signing the plan on Governors Island, located in the New York Harbor, where the talks were being held.

Aristide Delay in Signing Agreement Noted

PA0407014193 Paris AFP in Spanish 2323 GMT 3 Jul 93

[Excerpts] Governors Island, U.S.A., 3 Jul (AFP)—The signing, by constitutional President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, of the UN-OAS agreement to reinstate democracy in Haiti has experienced another delay following the arrival of the Haitian president to Governors Island, an island in the Port of New York where the negotiations took place. [passage omitted]

The United Nations had announced earlier that Aristide would sign the agreement at 1400 (1800 GMT), but five hours later the president had not signed the document.

According to sources close to Father Aristide's delegation, the constitutional president was, at the last minute, attempting to include additional guarantees on the definite separation from the Army of the high ranking Haitian officers.

Agreement Summarized

PA0307180093 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1701 GMT 3 Jul 93

[Text] Governors Island (New York), 3 Jul (EFE)—The agreement signed on 3 July by General Raoul Cedras, who toppled Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide 21 months ago, provides for the return of the deposed president to Haiti by [para el] 30 October.

It also specifies the resignation of Gen. Cedras, the lifting of sanctions imposed on the country, and the appointment of a prime minister by consensus.

Herewith is a summary of the items of the agreement, according the official document:

1. Start of a dialogue among the political parties, under the auspices of the United Nations and the OAS, to put the country on the path to normalcy.

2. Appointment of a prime minister by the president.

3. Confirmation of the prime minister by the "normal" [normalizado] Haitian National Assembly.

4. Suspension of the sanctions the United Nations imposed on Haiti on 23 June and of the other measures taken by the OAS.

5. Start of international cooperation, consisting of technical aid and assistance, to make administrative and judicial reforms and modernize the Armed Forces.

6. Amnesty granted by the president by virtue of Article 147 of the Haitian (political not penal) Constitution.

7. Approval of a law creating a new police force and, along those lines, the appointment of a new chief of police by the president.

8. Resignation of Cedras and appointment by the president of a new commander in chief of the Armed Forces who will name his own staff, according to the Haitian Constitution.

(The text of this paragraph reads: "The commander in chief of the Armed Forces has decided to make use of his right to an anticipated retirement, and the president shall appoint a new commander in chief who, in turn, will name the members of his top staff, according to the Constitution.")

9. Return to Haiti of President Jean Bertrand Aristide by 30 October 1993.

10. Full compliance of these agreements will be verified by the United Nations and the OAS." [no beginning quotation mark as received]

The text of this pact was intensely negotiated in an indirect manner for a whole week on Governors Island, (New York) by delegations headed by Aristide and Cedras, under the auspices of UN and OAS mediator Dante Caputo. On the afternoon of 3 July Aristide, who held out for several hours, is expected to sign the document, already signed by Cedras.

Aristide Signs Agreement

PA0407033493 Paris AFP in Spanish 0310 GMT 4 Jul 93

[Text] Governors Island (USA), 3 Jul (AFP)—On 3 July, Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide signed the UN-OAS agreement that calls for his return to power in Haiti on 30 October and the reestablishment of democracy in that Caribbean country.

The plan presented by the international mediator, Dante Caputo, was signed 12 hours earlier by General Raoul Cedras, chief of the Haitian Army, on Governors Island, an island located in the port of New York where indirect talks began on 27 June.

Cedras headed the coup d'etat that overthrew Aristide on 30 September 1991.

Cedras Returns to Port-au-Prince 3 Jul

PA0307215793 Paris AFP in Spanish 2126 GMT 3 Jul 93

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 3 Jul (AFP)—General Raoul Cedras, commander in chief of the Haitian Armed Forces, returned on 3 July to Port-au-Prince after signing in New York a UN-OAS agreement for the reinstatement of democracy in Haiti and the return of constitutional President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

The general, who returned after seven days of indirect negotiations with Aristide on Governors Island, was met at the airplane steps by the Army's second in command, Gen. Jean Claude Duperval.

Hundreds of Army sympathizers participated in a demonstration at the Haitian capital's airport.

According to the Governors Island agreement, Gen. Cedras "will exercise" his right to "an early retirement" a few days before Aristide's return, scheduled for 30 October. Aristide must appoint a new commander in chief, who will be in charge of forming a new Army staff.

Following his arrival, Gen. Cedras went directly to the Armed Forces Main Headquarters, where he is scheduled to meet with the high command members.

Addresses Nation

FL0507171793 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in French 1030 GMT 5 Jul 93

[Speech by Lieutenant General Raoul Cedras on 4 July in Port-au-Prince—recorded in Creole]

[Text] I was on foreign land for eight days. I went there to carry out the mission you entrusted to me. I am very happy to return home among you. I am even happier to see the reception you reserved for me whereas I did not yet even give you a report. It is proof of your continued faith in me.

At the same time, I was sad to see how beautiful and clean the small island was where I stayed. I do not understand why our country cannot be as beautiful and as organized as foreign countries. I am sad because I feel what is happening in the heart of every Haitian who is living far from home. It is time for all of us Haitians to meet under the central pillar of the country. This is my dream. It is this dream that I would like all of you to have. This is why today I have brought a message to you, a message that will bring peace, union, an invitation for all of us to be on good terms with one another, that asks all of us to love one another so the country can move forward.

This is why I went abroad. Before I went there, I told you that the country would change if President Aristide can see things the way I see them. I wanted to see him, I asked to talk to him throughout those eight days. He did not understand. I believed that both of us together would let God envelop us so we can disentangle the country. Every time they asked to open the country, he requested that it be closed even more. He does not want to see what is going on over here, in a country where there is no gasoline so our sons can undergo their baccalaureate exams; a country that has no food, drugs, or gasoline for the hospitals. I hope that when he realizes that what I am doing is for the country, he will take a step.

God allowed me to be humble so as to withstand anything. I did not sign anything not provided for by the country's fundamental law. Political matters are not the Army's business. They are the president's business, they are government's business. I ask that everybody assume their responsibilities. Deputies and senators will settle their business next week. A prime minister and a government will soon take office. The Army is out of it. I want the Army to confine itself within its role.

All the same, I did not accept and will not accept that nobody in the Army be effected [mwen pap aksepte yo manyen yon moun nan lame a]. Any reforms will be carried out in accordance with the country's fundamental law and the Army's rules. All that I do is in keeping with the Constitution and with everything that other powers in the country (?require). If there are matters you do not understand, I hope to explain them. I wish to tell you that if I believe I must resign [fok mwen rantre lakay mwen] at the appropriate time, when I decide to, it is because I want to show everybody that the job is not important, that class is not important, that I can make any sacrifices required for the country to change, so it can have a new face.

I thank the ministers who (?are leading) the country. They have properly carried out their patriotic duties. I congratulate them. The entire country must say thanks to them. Officers and soldiers of the Army: I congratulate you. No gunshot was fired. If problems nearly occurred, it was not our fault. While I was there, I felt my body shuddering. It was due to the fact that all who believe in God were praying to support me... [changes thought] My being shuddered as the result of all those prayers I was receiving.

Thank you, fathers, pastors, and voodoo priests. I thank the entire delegation that accompanied me. They never slept, they worked night and day, they allowed those negotiations to occur through their hard work. I thank them because—even though they have their own convictions—they did respect my convictions. I must also tell you—everybody acknowledges that, everybody abroad acknowledges that—they carried the country's flag very high.

I thank the United States and its government for asking all those living on the military base where I stayed to behave as brothers toward us, and they did. We say thanks to them. As for the international community, I finally see that this time they really want to help us get out of our situation. I thank the press for the efforts they

have made. I would like them to understand the importance they will have in what is going to happen in the country.

We fought hard so the sanctions could be lifted immediately. I am sorry that that has not yet been done. However, if we do things well, if we respect ourselves, if we all confine ourselves to our roles, the sanctions will soon be lifted. I believe that I have said everything, everything very clearly for everyone. Do not let anybody tell you what is not true. We want only one thing, the happiness of Haiti, a happiness for all Haitians. The country, the people will attin this happiness because, as I said, Haiti will not die. God is stronger.

Urges Unity

PA0507035393 Paris AFP in Spanish 2120 GMT 4 Jul 93

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 4 Jul (AFP)—Haitian Army chief General Raoul Cedras on 4 July, the day after signing the agreement to restore democracy in Haiti, urged Haitians to "unite" for the country's good. The agreement did not prompt popular demonstrations or official reactions from political parties.

In his message, broadcast on radio and television, Gen. Cedras said he bore a message of "peace unity for all the children of the fatherland."

There was no reaction from Haiti's political parties and the people seem skeptical over the implementation of the agreement and respect for the Army, most of whose rank and file are still opposed to Father Aristide's return.

Cedras said in his message that he regretted not having met with President Aristide, whom he overthrew in September 1991, during his week's stay on Governors Island in the bay of New York. He later accused Aristide of closing his eyes to the people's poverty. "Every time I called for an opening for the country, he demanded further closures," the officer said.

The head of the military government said he signed nothing that "disagreed" with the Haitian Constitution and he asked that the other side assume their responsibilities, particularly the deputies who next week must begin discussing "harmony" within the Haitian parliament.

The Haitian Army chief also said that he has not agreed "nor will he ever agree to allow anyone to touch a member of the Armed Forces." Any "change" must be made in accordance with the Constitution and "Armed Forces regulations," the general said.

Gen. Cedras said he had "worked a great deal" for the "immediate" suspension of the sanctions, but he pointed out that a suspension will depend on how "we behave" during the coming days.

Cedras pointed out that if he agreed to "return" home "it was for the good of the country and to prove to everyone that what counts for me is not my position, but Haiti's happiness."

Cedras thanked the Council of Ministers, which must govern the country following the resignation of Prime Minister Marc Bazin, and he also thanked the military officers who respected the "orders" given prior to his departure.

Homemade Bombs Explode in Port-au-Prince 1 Jul; 2 Wounded

FL0207172293 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 2 Jul 93

[Text] Several homemade bombs exploded in Port-au-Prince on 1 July, leaving two seriously wounded including a seven-year old child, police announced. The six explosions that have not been claimed occurred in various residential and commercial neighborhoods of the capital. The first occurred at noon and the last one at about 1900 local time, about 2300 GMT. After the second explosion, while calling for calm, the police forces patroled the streets of the capital and laid roadblocks at the north and south entries to the city. Those explosions occurred while the parties in conflict in Haiti are examining in New York a plan presented by international mediator Dante Caputo in attempting to restore democracy in Haiti.

Army Warns Against Explosions

FL0207171993 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in French 1300 GMT 2 Jul 93

["Press release" from Army Headquarters in Port-au-Prince 2 July—read by announcer]

[Text] The Army General Command, in its constant concern with ensuring peace and order, warns troublemakers of the great danger they are facing and the innocent lives they are jeopardizing in provoking the explosion of murderous devices at various points of the capital on Thursday 1 July 1993.

Such schemes cannot influence the course of the negotiations, which are totally incompatible with the bribed vandalism to which a well defined sector calls agitators instead of guiding and training them in the noble cause of promoting the reconciliation of Haitians in this difficult period of the national life.

As a consequence, security measures are being reinforced in order to allow the population to carry out normally its usual activities. The General Command would appreciate the open collaboration of the population against those subversive maneuvers. Secretariat of the General Command, Headquarters of Haitian Armed Forces.

Groups Accuse Civilian Mission of Incitement

FL0207222493 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 2 Jul 93

[Text] The civilian mission has been inciting the Cite Soleil population to stage revolt and banditry demonstrations, according to the Front for the Advancement and Progress of Haiti [Front pour l'Avancement et le Progres d'Haiti], according to a press release issued on 1 July. The front asks the people not to succumb to the provocations of mercenaries. The front says no slavery.

Furthermore, the Haitian Democratic Movement [Mouvement Democratique Haitien] calls everyone's attention to the dual role played by civilian observers who are staying in the country. The Christian Democratic Movement [Mouvement Democratique Chretien, as heard] says that the so-called observers might incite incidents to justify their presence on Haitian soil.

The movement also reports that fragments of explosive devices linked to the 1 July explosions in the capital were confiscated from mission members. Press representatives were not able to confirm that. However, we at Signal learned from reliable sources that about six explosions were heard throughout the capital, [especially] in Martissant, in Fontamara 27, in the Sans-Fil area, in Thomassin, and in the Marche Tete Boeuf [open market].

According to Port-au-Prince police officials, terrorist groups challenging even the police are the instigators of those explosions. Port-au-Prince police say they are determined to stop this climate of terror so they can carry out their mission, which is to ensure that lives and property are respected.

Aristide Colleague Denies Formation of Cabinet

FL0207165993 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 2 Jul 93

["Excerpt" from report by correspondent Anne-Marie Issa in New York—live]

[Text] On 1 July, the fifth day of negotiations and after Caputo had proposed to both parties an overall plan for the resolution of the Haitian crisis, we heard here that President Aristide is forming his ministerial cabinet. I quote the names that are being spoken of as ministers: Of information and coordination, Elsie Etheart and Lilianne Proux [corrects herself] Lilianne Pierre-Paul [former Radio Haiti Inter journalist]; of agriculture, Louis Dejoie [leader of the National Agricultural and Industrial Party]; of national defense, Colonel Valcin; of public health, Jean-Claude Desgranges or Claude Douze [former vice-president of the Haitian Christian Democratic Party]; of social affairs, Rene Theodore [leader of the National Reconstruction Movement]; of foreign affairs, Roger Biamby or Father Gerard Jean-Juste. Nono Jean- Baptiste is being quoted for sport and Marie-Yolene Eugene for finance and resources [as heard]. Other names being heard include Pastor (?Jean-Claude Exile) and Rev. (Gonel).

Last night, I contacted a close, a very close colleague of President Aristide. He denied this information and told me that it is out of the question, that he was not aware of it, and that this news is not trustworthy. I nevertheless wanted to tell you what is going on here because on the evening of 1 July this formation of President Aristide's ministerial cabinet was the only topic of conversation. This information, as I told you a short while ago, has been denied by a close colleague of President Aristide.

Senator Belizaire Encourages Parliamentary Normalization

FL0507174393 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1045 GMT 5 Jul 93

[Text] In Port-au-Prince, reactions followed the signing of Caputo's plan for settlement of the political crisis. Senator Dejean Belizaire calls on the legislators, especially those from the National Front for Change and Democracy, for quick normalization of the situation in the Parliament.

Guest on the broadcast, "Meeting," on Radio Metropole, Belizaire, whose post is contested, believes that only cohabitation with those elected on 18 January will allow this normalization. He called on President Aristide to display serenity and self-denial during this transition period.

[Begin Belizaire recording] What I ask my honorable colleagues is simply to be equal to the situation. The Haitian Armed Forces have been equal to the situation. Father Aristide has been equal to the situation. We, the legislators of the Alliance bloc and of the socialist bloc have been equal to the situation.

[Clarence] What does to be equal to the situation mean for the legislators? What do you ask of them?

[Belizaire] What I ask them is to understand the necessity of returning to their posts in the parliament since while they were deserting the parliament, they continued to be paid as legislators. In other words, a part of their function as legislators has not been respected. The legislator's fight is not done on the street. The legislator's fight is held inside the parliament. The parliamentary fight is done inside the Parliament.

[Clarence] To come back to the phrase, normalization of the situation in the Parliament, it seems that the ratification of the prime minister to be chosen depends on this normalization.

[Belizaire] Of course! Of course! It is therefore important that the senators put aside personal feelings and pride, because if it were a question of pride, General Cedras would not have agreed to leave his headquarters to go meet with President Aristide. That is why I think that President Aristide himself must show great serenity, great self-denial in his behavior during this transition

period. Because if this transition period is taken wrongly, certainly we will be in chaos again.

For example, when Father Aristide asks to have access to national television, I understand that. However he must know at the same time that National Television of Haiti must be used, not to further divide the country, but to bring all Haitians to a great national reconciliation. [Clarence] Do you give him this right—to speak on national television? [Bellizaire] Once the decree was voted by the national assembly and the provisions of the decree are respected, we acknowledge his privileges as president of the Republic. [end recording]

ALLAH's Georges Expresses Hope for Government of National Unity

FL0507180093 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 5 Jul 93

[Text] Reynold Georges from the Alliance for the Liberation and Progress of Haiti, ALLAH, sends a clear message to President Aristide, whose return is scheduled for 30 October by virtue of the Governors Island agreement. Georges hopes for the formation of a government of national unity, capable of rallying all political persuasions in the country.

[Begin recording in Creole] We believe that President Aristide is returning to the country on 30 October. We are taking this opportunity to tell President Aristide not to return the same as he was before. As president of the Republic, he must behave as a good head of a family. He must be president of all Haitians, without any distinction, and he must stop preaching violence. He must condemn violence, especially the practices of necklacing and uprooting. Some people are even preparing themselves for uprootings. If uprooting takes place, civil war will occur in the country and the father/president will lose his power again. But this time, the international community will not support him. We do not want the country to be in chaos.

We want to take this opportunity to send him and his partisans a message that he [and they] should listen to. It is necessary to form a government of national unity of reconciliation where all the parties rally around the same table to solve the country's matters. This is what we desire and what we have been advocating since May of 1992. Bazin is responsible for Aristide's return because since they orchestrated the Villa D'Acceuil Agreement. We know that that would have brought Aristide back. Now everyone agrees with ALLAH. [end recording]

Prime Minister Bazin had hoped that parliament would recognize the legitimacy of President Aristide as well as the Aristide-Cedras meeting as we have experienced it this week.

Senator Gilles on Arbitration Committee

FL0507181993 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 5 Jul 93

[Text] Serge Gilles, a senator reelected during the 18 January elections and leader of the National Progressive Revolutionary Party of Haiti, received the conclusions of the latest Haitian talks, which took place from 27 June to 3 July on Governors Island, New York, with much joy. Gilles hopes that the other sectors of the national life can make a sacrifice so the problem of the Haitian parliament can be resolved.

[Begin recording in Creole] The Constitution—I want to be clear about that—the Constitution repeats has provided for a means to resolve these kinds of conflict. The Constitution stipulates in one of its articles that every time that there is a conflict between the executive or a portion of the executive and a portion of or the entire legislature, a committee called an arbitration committee must be formed.

Well, I believe this case should be referred to the arbitration committee. But if they do not have time to do that, well, my dear, it is something that must be resolved through dialogue, discussion, and concerted action. [end recording]

Fuel Said Becoming Scarcer in Provinces

FL0207203293 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1045 GMT 2 Jul 93

[Text] Port-au-Prince drivers are not the only ones who wait in lines in gas stations. Drivers in the provinces are not exempt from the new formula that requires sacrificing one's sleep to be in the lines that sometimes extend to ten meters, under difficult conditions. Not only have petroleum products become scarcer in the provinces, but the price per gallon is increasing. Public-transport fares are increasing in Saint-Marc.

Belize

New Prime Minister Esquivel Sworn Into Office

FL0307175593 Bridgetown CANA in English 1733 GMT 3 Jul 93

[Text] Belize City, July 3, CANA—Belize's new prime minister, Manuel Esquivel, was sworn into office Friday. The 53-year-old Esquivel took the oath of office from Governor General Dame Minita Gordon during a brief ceremony at Belize House in Belmopan. After accepting the oath, Esquivel immediately issued an order to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to release all files requested by a consortium of non-governmental organisations so it could continue its investigation into the alleged registration of illegal immigrants and the granting of Belizean citizenship. The charge was made by Esquivel's party during the general election campaign.

Esquivel's United Democratic Party [UDP] narrowly defeated the People's United Party led by George Price, taking 16 of the 29 parliamentary seats that were at stake. Esquivel said the election which came a year before the Constitution deadline worked to his party's advantage.

"It allowed for a very short campaign, a very focussed campaign, in which people's minds were directed at the issues rather than other extraneous factors, so that it was definitely an issue campaign and on the issues we were on the offensive," he said.

Esquivel served as prime minister during the UDP's first term in government from 1984 to 1989. This time around, Esquivel says, the party will be striving to stay in touch with constituencies, having learnt from the mistakes of 1984-1989.

"The last time we moved the party hierarchy into the government as ministers and representatives and we did not leave the proper administration behind in the party office in Belize City and this is something we will not repeat," Esquivel said.

"We will place a great deal more emphasis on finding a balance between getting the work that needs to be done, but also staying in touch with our constituencies to make sure that people are aware of what we are doing and that we are aware of their reaction to what we are doing."

The UDP, during the campaign, had accused Price's government of economic mismanagement and corruption and of having failed to satisfactorily address the security implications for Belize in light of the scaling down of the British military presence here. Esquivel said he plans on carrying out all his campaign promises, on the issue of corruption, he said his government plans to seek advice for the appointment of an impartial investigator to look into the matter.

Ex-Prime Minister Price has been keeping a low profile. He has not made any public appearances since his party's defeat. Party chairman and former foreign minister, Said Musa, told Channel Five news that his party was the victim of circumstances, citing events in Guatemala and the announcement of the British decision to reduce its military presence in Belize among factors which "dimmed" its chances of re-election.

Guatemala has had a long-standing claim to Belize. But the hard- line stance of not recognising the former British colony and vigorously pressing the claim has changed. Even after President Jorge Serrano was ousted in a coup recently, the new administration in Guatemala said it would support his stand to recognise Belize.

Prime Minister Esquivel says he hopes to appoint his cabinet by early next week and plans to put in a token appearance at the Caribbean Community heads of government summit opening in Nassau, the Bahamas, Monday.

El Salvador

Assembly Appoints, Swears In Prosecutor, Attorney General

PA0207143393 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] Following several days of discussions, on 30 June the Legislative Assembly appointed and swore in Dr. Manuel Lainez Mendez as prosecutor general of the Republic and Dr. Lazaro Tadeo Bernal as attorney general. The Legislative Assembly decision was supported by the Nationalist Republican Alliance [Arena], Christian Democratic Party [PDC], and National Conciliation Party [PCN]. Following a month of negotiations in the political commission, Arena and the PDC reached a bilateral agreement to support each other with their votes to elect the new prosecutor general and the attorney general.

[Begin first unidentified speaker recording] We also talked with Dr. Manuel Lainez and he has a positive attitude, meaning he will not use the Prosecutor General's Office as an instrument for repression. The Prosecutor General's Office will be strengthened as an investigative organization. We believe he is the appropriate person to endorse the new plans that the prosecutor general of the Republic must carry out to strengthen the management of justice. [end recording]

Arena gave up on its decision to re-elect Roberto Mendoza Jerez. This opportunity was used by the PDC to put one of its members in the Attorney General's Office—in exchange for the party's votes. Nevertheless, the new prosecutor general's election was not endorsed by the Democratic Convergence [CD], which voted against it.

[Begin second unidentified speaker recording] In this case, meaning Dr. Lainez' case, we have serious doubts about his ability and qualifications to assume the role of prosecutor general of the Republic. [end recording]

CD deputies, independent deputies, and one PDC deputy also abstained from supporting Lazaro Tadeo Bernal's appointment as attorney general. Bernal's was accused of personal anomalies that were justified by the PCN.

[Begin recording] [Third unidentified speaker] We learned about lawsuits filed by his wife, reportedly after beatings. This was reported by the media, a scandal reported by a local newspaper months ago. This worries us because, although some deputies do not like this, we worry about his qualifications to assume this post, which is responsible for family welfare and it obviously deals with family rights, womens' rights, and childrens' rights.

[Fourth unidentified speaker] You can trust him with the post. He is reliable because we know who he is and what he will do. As for what was mentioned here a few minutes ago, he knows about the subject. He knows about the subject and he will know how to deal with irresponsible fathers, battered wives, and abandoned children. He obviously has experience. [end recording]

CD also criticized the political settlement reached between the Arena and the PDC to overcome a stalemate in the negotiations to fill the posts of prosecutor general and attorney general, which has been empty for 45 days. When the talks began within the political commission, the PDC and CD formed an opposition bloc that rejected Mendoza Jerez' reelection. There was even talk about the possibility of appointing Aaron Diaz but negotiations took another course in the end, excluding the leftist deputies.

Armed Forces To Participate in Patrols To Fight Crime

PA0307165793 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 3 Jul 93

[Text] President Alfredo Cristiani announced on 2 July he has ordered the deployment of Armed Forces troops in different areas of the country to combat crime.

[Begin Cristiani recording] The Interinstitutional Commission To Prevent and Combat Crime [Comision Interinstitucional para la Prevencion y Combate de la Delinquencia] met on 2 July. We did agree to use the Armed Forces in preventive patrol missions. [end recording] The patrol missions do not mean soldiers will have the authority to capture offenders or perform strictly police functions.

[Begin Cristiani recording] The police and even the Armed Forces, if need be, will determine the presence of former Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] fighters in these armed gangs. The FMLN has stated it has no ties to these groups. [end recording]

The president said the latest UN report states satisfactory progress has been made in the peace accords, meaning there have been delays in the timetable not a failure to comply. Cristiani, who attended the inauguration of the fifth national handicrafts fair, hailed the artisans' work to introduce this type of nontraditional product in the international market.

[Begin Cristiani recording] I ask all Salvadorans to come to the fifth handicrafts fair to see the beautiful things our artisans can make and the cultures from different areas of the country. [end recording]

Present at the fair's inauguration were officials from the ministry in charge of marketing these product abroad.

FMLN Opposes Army Deployment To Control Crime

PA0307184493 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 3 Jul 93

[Text] The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] has opposed the government decision to deploy Army units to help prevent common crime because it is at odds with the peace accords and the Constitution. FMLN Spokesman Juan Ramon Medrano said the government attitude clearly breaks the spirit of the agreements signed in 1992. He indicated the former guerrilla group's rank and file members may regard the decision announced by President Alfredo Cristiani as an act of provocation, which—he added— we hope will not prompt a negative response that may be out of our control.

Medrano said the government would not just be going against the peace agreements but also violating the Constitution, which limits Army functions to the defense of national sovereignty and bars it from performing public security missions.

Clandestine Group Threatens To Kill Former High Command

PA0307195893 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1634 GMT 3 Jul 93

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 3 Jul (NOTIMEX)—A clandestine group, allegedly formed by former Salvadoran guerrillas, warned on 3 July that it will "execute" the former Army high command if its officers do not leave the country within 15 days.

"The Salvadoran Revolutionary Front (FRS) has ordered the execution of the people's assassins," a female voice said in a telephone call to NOTIMEX.

The woman, who identified herself as an FRS member, said that the military officers who would be executed include former Defense Minister General Rene Emilio Ponce and former Deputy Defense Minister Orlando Zepeda. She also included Gen. Mauricio Vargas, former deputy chief of staff, on the "execution" list.

"The FRS has said that our weapons will be used again against the 'La Tandona' [reference to the 1966 graduating class of the Captain General Gerardo Barrios

Military Academy] assassins," if the former military chiefs "do not leave the country within 15 days," the alleged former guerrilla stressed.

"Remember that the FRS hits hard," the anonymous voice of the FRS member said. The FRS emerged after the military force of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) was disbanded in December.

The former defense minister has expressed concern about the threats made "by some crazy and radical individuals who still exist within the FMLN." He indicated that the group has carried out "42 attacks, including the killing of seven officers." [passage omitted]

Changes in Army High Command Viewed

PA0207125293 San Salvador Radio Farabundo Marti Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] What could have been a full-fledged celebration has turned into moderate optimism. We are referring specifically to the change of defense minister and other officers who leave their posts in fulfillment of the Chapultepec Agreement.

On 1 July, according to the peace agreements, the purging of over 100 officers who maintained an attitude of total disrespect for the life and dignity of their adversaries during the war must be completed.

But it must not be forgotten that such brutal behavior was not a result of the irrationality of the war or the heat of clashes which, even if unexcusable, may be understood. That behavior was part of a military plan, a military doctrine that predisposes the massive elimination, not only of the unarmed adversary, but also of his relatives, regardless of whether they are children or elders.

The Ad Hoc Commission made it very clear that those whose way of thinking would drive them to use the same methods, commit the same abuses against the human rights of Salvadorans if they stayed in power, should leave the Army.

The fact that the purge is completed on 1 July is worthy of celebration. But the celebration would have been complete if the officers who will occupy those offices as of 1 July were soldiers with a new doctrine who did not see the poor as enemies of the nation, particularly since the poor are two-thirds of the Salvadoran population.

The information gathered by the nongovernment human rights organization sheds serious doubt on Colonel Humberto Corado's qualifications to occupy the post of defense minister.

According to testimony gathered by the humanitarian organization, Corado was involved in a massacre in 1982. Even worse, he belongs to the group of officers that refuses to change the old military doctrine.

Therefore, regarding the Army affair, it is quite worthy to repeat the old French saying: The more things change, the more they stay the same.

Guatemala

Liberal Party Leader Dies in URNG Commando Unit Attack

PA0407125393 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0709 GMT 4 Jul 93

[Text] Guatemala City, 4 Jul (ACAN-EFE)—Guatemalan politician Jorge Carpio Nicolle, leader of the country's strongest political party, former presidential candidate, and cousin of the chief of state, died on the evening of 3 July after being attacked by a guerrilla commando unit on a highway, sources close to the victim have reported.

Carpio, 60, was traveling with several relatives, friends, and bodyguards on a highway in Quiche Department, northwest of Guatemala City, when the guerrillas attacked him. The politician and three of his companions died in the shoot-out.

Jorge Carpio Nicolle was leader of the Union of the National Center (Liberal), the party that won the largest number of deputy seats in the 1990 elections.

He held a Bachelor's Degree in communications and was editor of EL GRAFICO, one of the most important newspapers in the Guatemalan capital.

Carpio was a presidential candidate in the 1990 elections, in which he was defeated by Jorge Serrano, who was deposed a week after staging a "self-inflicted coup" on 25 May.

Carpio was the cousin of Guatemalan President Ramiro De Leon Carpio, who was elected by Congress on 6 June to replace Serrano.

De Leon was linked politically to his cousin when he ran as Carpio's vice presidential candidate in the 1985 elections won by Christian Democrat Vinicio Cerezo.

The politician, who was shot several times, died on the way to the hospital shortly after the attack, which occurred at about 1000 on 3 July (0400 GMT on 4 July).

The guerrilla commando unit, which has established "assault points" along highways in northern Guatemala, attacked Carpio and his companions near Chichicastenango, Quiche Department, an area where insurgent activity is frequent.

The commando unit, according to sources close to Carpio, belongs to the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity [URNG], which was formed over three decades ago and is the last guerrilla group in Central America.

Serrano opened a peace dialogue with the URNG in 1991. It failed to yield important results and was interrupted by the former president's "self-inflicted coup."

The current chief of state has announced he will comment on the future of the talks with the URNG on 7 July.

PRENSA LIBRE Reports Death

PA0607000593 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 4 Jul 93 p 3

[Text] Jorge Carpio Nicolle, political leader of the Union of the National Center [UCN] was killed last night [3 July] by alleged guerrillas on the road that leads from Chichicastenango to the Solola crossing. The announcement was made by Sidney Shaw, UCN organization secretary, and Ricardo Sampedro, EL GRAFICO administrative manager.

Carpio Nicolle was shot in the groin and in the abdomen. Other persons killed during the attack include Juan Vicente Villacorta, Alejando Arriola Guzman, and bodyguard Rigoberto Gonzalez. Sidney Shaw, 15, and Alejandro Sampedro were both wounded in their legs and received cuts on their backs.

Shaw stated that the guerrillas had been following them since they departed Chichicastenango, Quiche. Near Los Encuentros they were surrounded by a group of 30 heavily armed men whose faces were covered by ski caps. The guerrillas surrounded their vehicle and forced them to get out, and then proceeded to steal all their belongings, including their identification papers.

"The guerrillas surrounded the vehicle and when they became aware that Jorge Carpio Nicolle was among the group they started shouting that he should be killed because he was an obstacle to their revolutionary goals," Sampedro desperately pointed out.

The EL GRAFICO administrative manager, his voice faltering, repeated: "They killed Carpio Nicolle; the killed the UCN ideologist. It was all a real tragedy! They were heavily armed men who said they were guerrilla members."

Carpio Nicolle's motorcade had planned to visit the communities of Soloa, Huehuetenango, and Quiche in order to reorganize for the presidential campaign. Sidney Shaw stated that they never thought they would run into such a "murderous" surprise from the guerrillas.

Guatemalan President Ramiro De Leon Carpio deplored the fact that there are persons in Guatemala who still continue to solve their ideological differences through violent means.

"I am completely dismayed because, in addition to being a relative of mine, he was also a person of far-reaching ideals who could have contributed significant benefits to all Guatemalans."

Violence does not lead to positive goals, a reason for which the president condemned the despicable attack. The president indicated that this type of attack merely tarnishes the democracy all Guatemalans seek.

The president insisted on pointing out that Carpio's death is a heavy blow to Guatemala because he was an respectable person who contributed much to sport, journalism, and national politics. "He is my own blood, to my own mother this is nothing less than losing a son," De Leon stated.

URNG Denies Responsibility

PA0407212993 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2023 GMT 4 Jul 93

[Text] Mexico City, 4 Jul (EFE)—On 4 July in Mexico City Guatemalan guerrillas denied any involvement in the death of the Guatemalan politician Jorge Carpio Nicolle and blamed "recalcitrant sectors," who they say are bent on hampering Guatemala's pacification.

Carpio, former presidential candidate, Union of the National Center leader, and cousin of President Ramiro De Leon Carpio, in addition to three other people, were riddled with bullets by unidentified armed men who ambushed them on a highway in Quiche Department on 3 July.

The Guatemalan rebels "most strongly condemn this loathsome action," according to a Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity communique released in Mexico City.

"We hereby demand a thorough investigation so the perpetrators of this new political crime do not remain unpunished. Actions such as this one are completely alien to the URNG's objectives and methods," the guerrillas said.

The communique says the murder intends to "prevent President De Leon Carpio from finding a political solution through dialogue and negotiation of the armed conflict."

URNG described as irresponsible the reports immediately blaming the rebels.

On 26 June, URNG suspended the dialogue for peace, which it had been holding with the Guatemalan Government in Mexico City since 24 June 1991, to protest the now deposed president Jorge Serrano Elias' 24 June 1993 "self-inflicted coup." URNG had invited the government to resume the talks after Ramiro de Leon Carpio took office as president.

Nevertheless, the new Guatemalan president, who was formerly the Human Rights Ombudsman, had said that resuming the talks was not a priority item in his government platform.

The communique denying responsibility for the assassination was released by the URNG General Command, which operates clandestinely in Guatemala, and made public by the URNG Political and Diplomatic Commission office in Mexico City.

Guatemala is immersed in a 30-year armed conflict that has resulted in the deaths of at least 150,000 people and caused the displacement of 1 million people.

PRENSA LIBRE Reports URNG Denial

PA0507233493 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 5 Jul 93 p 3

[Text] The Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) Command has firmly rejected the report that guerrillas forces were linked with the assassination of political leader Jorge Carpio Nicolle and three other persons, according to a facsimile received from the Guatemala news agency.

The text notes that the URNG Command stated "its strongest condemnation of the repudiated crime," in which the cousin of current Guatemalan President Ramiro de Leon Carpio was killed. The URNG stated that it wants to make it clear that it was always allowed space for its statements and pronouncements in the pages of the newspaper EL GRAFICO, of which the victim was its director general.

Carpio Nicolle, founder of that morning newspaper and of the Union of the National Center (UCN), was shot to death on the evening of 3 July near kilometer 114, between the towns of Los Encuentros and Chichicastenango, Quiche, en route to a routine meeting with members of a branch of that party, according to the source.

The persons killed in the attack were: Vicente Villacorta, brother-in-law of Carpio Nicolle and two of his bodyguards. Sidney Shaw, who survived the attack, said the attackers were identified as a URNG patrol, which means that an attempt is being made to block the process of peace negotiations, a diplomatic source stated, according to the facsimile.

In keeping with that statement, the text stated, the URNG Command, on deploring "the tragic incident," warns that the action is part of a "plan concocted by recalcitrant sectors, with the purpose of raising obstacles to the path of peace and conciliation the Guatemalan people demand."

The URNG appeals for an in-depth investigation, the document reports, so this new political crime will not go unpunished. The clarification it wants, the URNG Command says, "is a demand of Guatemalan society that is echoed by us."

Incidents of this sort, totally alien to the URNG methods and objectives, occur as a way of preventing President de Leon Carpio from finding a political solution to the armed conflict through dialogue and negotiation. The Guatemalan people know where the enemies of peace are, the rebel communique concluded.

President Orders Investigation

PA0507232193 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 5 Jul 93 p 119

[Text] President Ramiro De Leon Carpio said he has ordered a prompt and full investigation of Jorge Carpio Nicolle's death so that it does not go unpunished. De Leon Carpio said this after speaking in a broken voice about his consternation and worry "as a cousin and as president" over this murder and that of three other people.

At a news conference the president said that aside from the fact that Carpio Nicolle was a relative, the murder must be investigated until those responsible are found.

To this end, he said, he has requested the assistance of the National Army for a detailed search operation of the surrounding area of the ambush site to locate the alleged guerrillas or gang of criminals.

The orders, the president said, are drastic and energetic to obtain as soon as possible positive results to track down those who are responsible.

De Leon Carpio added that these types of actions places the democratic process, for which Guatemalans have defended with so much sacrifice, in mourning. Furthermore, they also affect the government, to a certain extent, which is trying to attain national unity with much difficulty.

Nevertheless, he concluded, in the face of grief, consternation, and frustration, I have to admit that I have been elected to bring Guatemala forward and I am willing to face this type of adversity.

Government Rejects URNG Involvement

PA0607021993 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0123 GMT 6 Jul 93

[Text] Guatemala City, 5 Jul (ACAN-EFE)—On 5 July the Guatemalan Government rejected that the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) "Command" had ordered the 3 July assassination of Jorge Carpio Nicolle, leader of the political opposition and former presidential candidate.

President Ramiro De Leon Carpio said the preliminary investigations indicate those responsible were former guerrillas who are out of the control of the URNG.

De Leon Carpio also rejected that politics was the motive for the crime, which occurred on a road in the northern Quiche Department, as various local sectors claimed. De Leon Carpio believes robbery was the motive.

The president's statements were reiterated by Defense Minister General Mario Enriquez who said the weapons used by the members of the band were the type used by the insurgents.

The first reports on the assassination, released by the Carpio family and members of the Union of the National Center (UCN), blamed a guerrilla column that had set up an assault post along the road.

However, the rebel command, from Mexico, denied those statements and blamed the assassination on "unruly sectors" attempting to hinder the peacemaking process in Guatemala.

Meanwhile, Government Minister Arnoldo Ortiz Moscoso doubted the assassination had been planned because, minutes later, the criminals attacked relatives of independent deputy Diego Velasco Brito who were also traveling along the same road.

According to survivors, the former presidential candidate and first cousin of Ramiro De Leon Carpio and three others were assassinated by heavily armed men who identified themselves as guerrillas in Quiche Department, a war-torn area.

Nicaragua

Chamorro Explains Offer of UN Training Center

PA0307162193 Managua Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 0230 GMT 2 Jul 93

[Report by Maria Elsa Suarez]

[Text] Deputy Presidency Minister Jose Guerra Pastora said the news media have distorted for political purposes the offer Nicaragua made to the United Nations to establish here a regional UN training center.

[Begin Guerra recording] Just as Nicaragua has been the recipient of support and help from peace missions, Nicaragua, at the recommendation of the Sandinist People's Army, made a request to UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali to establish here a regional center to train Central American troops. Once trained, they will return to their countries of origin. It is not that Nicaragua will be occupied by invading forces or that we are surrendering our sovereignty. [end recording]

President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro also addressed those concerns.

[Begin Chamorro recording] First of all, I do not sell my fatherland. Second, I can lend.... [pauses] I mean it in the spirit with which friendly countries came to help with our disarmament. You recall that they came to help us with disarmament. People from the United Nations, Venezuela, Colombia, and Mexico came to help us. How many came to help us with disarmament? That does not mean those governments surrendered their sovereignty. This can help to do something good. [end recording] She said the following about the dialogue:

[Begin Chamorro recording] It is gaining strength, advancing [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Chamorro ruled out the possibility of a social explosion in Nicaragua.

[Begin Chamorro recording] I don't think anybody wants a bloodbath. All of us want to work instead. [end recording]

Lacayo Reads National Dialogue Declarations

PA0207210693 Managua Radio Nicaragua Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] Representatives of the various sectors participating in the national dialogue that began on 26 May at the Presidential Palace agreed on a permanent dialogue and the need to modernize the state. Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo held a news conference during which he read the document signed by the dialogue participants.

[Begin Lacayo recording] First I am going to read the agreement signed by the dialogue participants on 26 May, the day it began; then I will refer to what has been done. On 26 May the dialogue participants signed an agreement on the modernization of state institutions. It reads as follows:

We the representatives of the Nicaraguan Government, political parties, and business and labor groups, summoned by President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro to participate in the dialogue beginning 26 May on the modernization of state institutions, agreed on the following agenda to reach in one month the conclusions and recommendations that may help us define the steps to be taken later: from 3 to 9 June, the judicial branch; 10 June, the electoral office, elections on the Atlantic coast, and the Comptroller General's Office; 16 June, the legislative branch; 17 June, the municipalities; 23 June, the executive branch; 24 June, the armed forces and security corps; 30 June, conclusions and recommendations.

We also agreed to invite the highest-ranking authorities of each of the aforementioned institutions to participate in the meetings during which will discuss topics related to each institution to promote a dialogue with high standards that is advantageous for the development of our country's institutions.

That was the agreement signed by the various entities represented at the negotiating table. I am pleased to report that in the past weeks we fully covered our established agenda and met with the highest-ranking authorities of each institution mentioned. Today, 30 June, we worked on the conclusions and recommendations and the participants signed the declaration on the dialogue on the modernization of state institutions. I am now going to read that declaration:

The representatives of the Nicaraguan Government, political parties, businesses, farmers, and labor union groups, summoned by President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, participated in the discussions on the modernization of state enterprises, which began on 26 May

and concluded on 30 June. We reaffirm that Nicaragua is experiencing democratic growth that requires an overall modernization of state institutions within the framework of respect for the rule of law. We concluded that the profound changes that have taken place at home and abroad also call for reforms to the country's Constitution, laws, and public institutions. We also deem it fundamental that dialogue among the various sectors should become the most appropriate mechanism for seeking solutions to the country's problems within the framework of democracy. In that respect, we feel new forums for dialogue must be established to discuss and solve problems among groups and the special problems the country is facing. Because we are aware that the country is experiencing a crisis, we feel the government and all segments of society must give priority to solving the urgent socioeconomic problems; basically, unemployment, labor and agrarian problems, and rearmed groups. We also conclude that any change in or reform of the Republic's institutions can be executed in line with the will of the people as expressed in elections and within the legal framework established by the Constitution and the laws. Based on the contributions of the various participants, we commissioned the government to report on 8 July the consensus we finally reached in this dialogue.

Issued in Managua on 30 June 1993.

Signed: the presidency and social action ministers, attorney general, deputy government minister, director of the Nicaraguan Institute of Municipal Development, legal affairs director of the Presidential Palace, special attorney for property issues for the government, Commander Jaime Wheelock for the Sandinist National Liberation Front, Constantino Pereira for the National Union of Farmers and Cattlemen, Jose Espinosa and Antonio Jarquin for the General Confederation of Labor, and Alvin Guthrie and Alejandro Solorzano for the Center Bloc. [end recording]

Lacayo Gives News Conference

PA0407023993 Managua Radio Nicaragua Network In Spanish 1420 GMT 1 Jul 93

[News conference by Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo with unidentified moderator and domestic and international reporters at the Radio Ya studio in Managua—live]

[Excerpts] [Unidentified reporter] The economic situation is clear, the economic plan has been set forth, and the economic crisis has been identified, although it is presented more dramatically by some than by others. In any case, the economic situation is acute and more than serious. Mr. Lacayo, the problem is not so much the bad economic situation, but what actions will be taken to solve it within a short time. Honestly speaking, Mr. Lacayo, I believe the situation can no longer go on this way.

[Lacayo] I would first like to thank Radio Ya, and particularly its director Carlos Guadamuz, for the invitation, and for the presence of so many reporters and friends for this exchange of ideas. I hope it is of benefit for you and for the people listening.

President Violeta Chamorro opened the national dialogue process on 3 May and met with our country's political, labor, and business sectors during that same week. Since then it was clear that Nicaraguans in general, through their representatives and leaders, have given the economy top priority, above other problems, such as the political issue. This is consistent with the results of recent polls taken by the government and by independent media. When we asked the Nicaraguan people four years ago, just as we began the election campaign, to name the most important problem facing the country, they were divided. Some said the economic crisis and others said the war. Those who said the war, however, always said the second problem was the economic crisis. Those who said the economic crisis was the most important, also said that the war was the second most important problem. The two problems seriously concerned us then. Now, when you ask the same question, the war no longer appears to be a problem. The economic crisis appears as almost our only problem. As one was solved, the other gained even greater importance in the minds of the Nicaraguans, which is logical for this to happen.

We must remember that since the 1960's and mainly toward the end of the 1970's, a political war broke our strength as it tried to free us from a dictatorship and began to destroy our economy. Whenever I travel to Chinandega I see what used to be a paper factory. I remember it was destroyed in 1978 or perhaps in mid-1979. That is when the destruction of valuable infrastructure really began; things such as factories and work centers. Nicaraguans at that time saw this as the price we had to pay to gain freedom from the Somozist dictatorship. Starting then our GNP dropped. In 1978 it dropped tremendously as a result of the war. In 1979 it fell again. Our economy began to loose altitude. In 1980 it regained a little, and in 1981, 1982, 1983, and 1984 it also improved. During these four years it grew. If we look at our economy as an airplane, we could say that it lost altitude in 1978 and again in 1979. From 1980 to 1983 it began to climb. In 1984 it fell again. Since then the economy has continued to fall. From 1984 to 1990 the economy moved backward. In 1991 it did not loose altitude, but it did not climb either. In 1992 we managed to gain some altitude; although very little, about half a percentage point. We did manage, however, to reverse the trend.

Now Nicaraguans find that the problems appear before our very eyes. We discover that the crisis grew for 14 years and was further deteriorated by the destruction of valuable infrastructure during the years of the war against Somoza and later the war among Nicaraguans. Infrastructure, such as city downtown areas, the port of Corinto, and important bridges, were destroyed.

We also find the foreign debt grew at an alarming rate during the previous decade. Why is this? Because at that time, those who were in charge of the economy did not have much time to think about what they were doing. The important thing then was to keep the country going and survival. To this end, we acquired the highest per capita debt in the world. In other words, each Nicaraguan by 1990, when we took over the public administration, owed approximately $3,000. This represents a total debt of nearly $12 billion. Each Nicaraguan owed $3,000 times 4 million, as there are 4 million Nicaraguans, equals $12,000 million. This is larger than the debt of Mexico and Brazil. They have a per capita debt of about $1,000. We have a per capita debt of $3,000.

We then began to see what we could do to solve this problem. When we appealed to the donors, we found that the traditional donors had disappeared. The Soviet Union was crumbling and East Germany had disappeared in 1989 after the fall of the Berlin Wall. The countries that provided oil to Nicaragua suddenly disappeared.

We found donors that continued to assist Nicaragua, namely, the Nordic countries, Spain, Italy with its difficulties, Holland, Canada, and some other countries. We also approached new donors: the United States, Germany, Japan, Venezuela, and Mexico, which had cut off aid to Nicaragua during the last decade. What happened then? These new donors worked closely with the World Bank and the IMF and they began to ask us to redirect our economy in accordance with the guidelines of the aforesaid financial institutions.

They—Japan, the United States, and Germany, which are the most prosperous countries of the world—asked us to promote economic practices that they believed would lead to economic growth. These principles are fostered by respecting market economic rules and allowing business sectors to take on a leadership role.

When they donate money, they want to be sure that the country, Nicaragua in this case, is more or less following their guidelines. They do not believe in the kind of economy we had in the past decade, that Cuba has, or that the Soviet Union had because they see that the results are very poor. They do not like giving money to countries that have that sort of economy because the money is lost. We began to deal with those institutions. We also found we owed them money. The Sandinist government had broken relations with the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank in 1983. The foreign debt grew and grew.

When we went to those institutions to request money, the first thing they told us was to make our account current. To do that, we had to collect $360 million, which we paid them in order to begin to receive funds from those institutions. The beginning was very difficult because it is terrible to have to ask for money to pay debts, instead of using that money for hospitals, schools, highways, or farms. We have succeeded, however, in getting current. We have also succeeded in reducing our debt with Mexico, Argentina, Colombia, the United States, and the countries known as the Paris Club.

We have managed to stabilize the economy regarding our currency. This means we have done away with hyperinflation. The major challenge ahead of us is growth. We have said that very clearly. I would say we basically need two things to grow, however. One is to work, to work hard. Some people are working very hard in Nicaragua, but others still like to live the (?easy life). Also, we need resources. Many farmers want to work, but lack the resources. The resources must come from foreign aid—and here we are making a tremendous effort, meaning the Foreign Cooperation Ministry and President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro who personally obtains something every time she goes abroad—and from investments.

I mean investments by private citizens and companies—Chinese who want to buy El Continental or install factories in the free zone, Spaniards who come to invest in the Montelimar resort, Frenchmen who come to invest in new coffee fields, or whoever. What do we find? We find that the investment the government wants to attract, the investors we bring in all the time—last week we brought in Mexican investors—often meet resistance. First, there are the Higher Council of Private Enterprise businessmen. They are the first to advise investors not to come because the conditions do not exist for investment. This has always caught our attention, because some of them are investing here. It would seem they do not want competition. They say the laws are incomplete, the conditions do not exist, or that there is no climate for investment. It is precisely the people who are investing who often say those things, as if to avoid competition, something that is immoral. We also find that workers unintentionally also scare investors away. When investors visit the Presidential Palace and see actions that are normal to us, because we are used to the agitation, but seem warlike to them, they get frightened. They prefer to go to Costa Rica, which is more peaceful. [passage omitted]

During the week of 27 June, two cabinet ministers, the Central Bank president, and the finance minister were in Switzerland trying to obtain donations to pay private debts with the banks. It is very difficult and challenging to request donations to cancel debts dating back to the 1960's and 1970's, rather then to build more schools or water wells.

We must pay these debts and we are going to pay them with an enormous [word indistinct]. Somoza left a debt of about $1 billion with private banks. We are going to see if we are able to pay this debt with $100, $80, or $50 million. This debt must be paid so we do not have a debt with private banks and we clean the slate so those private banks will come here once again to seek clients and finance some operations. As long as we owe them this amount of money, they will not come here. We must

achieve a deal with private banks similar to the one we achieved with the World Bank.

Obviously, with the World Bank, we had to pay the entire bill, because they do not accept reductions. Private banks have recognized that they have to accept reductions. We do not have money, nor are we going to use people's money to pay them. This is why these ministers were trying to get these donations abroad. This is how we live, that is, visiting other countries to ask for cooperation.

The other day the foreign cooperation minister was visiting Finland trying to obtain some funds. The foreign minister will leave on 1 July for Taiwan. He was expected to leave the country on 30 June. On 29 June, Taiwan confirmed it will donate $20 million as part of a joint credit they will offer with the Inter-American Development Bank. This $20 million of fresh money represents a great deal for us. Foreign Minister Leal will travel to Taiwan to see if this amount can be increased to $30 million. This is what we are doing.

What we must do, Carlos, to finish your question, is that all Nicaraguans must assume responsibility for solving the economic problem. We must not wait for the government to resolve our economic problem, because this is a problem of all Nicaraguans. It will only be resolved if we work united—producers, workers, political parties, media, universities, and the government. This is a problem of all Nicaraguans. I agree with you that this is the number one problem on our agenda. We are working continuously to solve this problem.

We must be clear on this and this is a serious problem. This is how I view this problem. We had been moving backward and we must now turn around and move forward, in addition to achieving population growth.

[Moderator] Sonia Gonzalez, NOTIMEX.

[Gonzalez] Eng. Lacayo, is the government studying the possibility of amending its growth plans and economic plan given a reduction in foreign aid? I would also like to know the exact amount of foreign aid the government currently has and the gap with which it will close this year. Thank you.

[Lacayo] I believe the growth goals are definitely being amended, and they are being amended every day so that they adjust to our reality. A goal must be realistic to be a goal, otherwise it is simply a figure on a paper. Referring to this, for this year we had.... [pauses] we had a 3 percent to 4 percent economic growth goal for last year, meaning 1992. What happened then? What happened then?

You may remember coffee dropped to very low levels in January and February 1992. Coffee producers did not want to sell their coffee. They stored it because someone told them coffee prices would go up. They were told: Prices will go up in May. Therefore, the producers did not sell their coffee—yet the prices were even lower in May. They were compelled to sell when they realized they had to pay the bank so the bank would give them more money. They sold at a low price. This immediately affects goals in a negative way because if one establishes a goal based on a coffee price of $80 yet the coffee ends up being sold for $60 then the country loses a bunch of money.

We suffered another setback last year—the drought. Remember that these last three years have been the driest Nicaragua has had in over 50 years. This year has been better, thank God, but it will have a bearing on the 1994 goals, above all. It may also have a bearing on the 1993 goals, particularly the first harvest, but it will be more evident in 1994, when coffee and products being sowed now will be on the market.

Consequently, the low international prices, the drought, and the withholding of $100 million of U.S. aid in 1993 tremendously affected the 1992 goals. We set a 3 percent goal for this year and we have a factor in our favor—the current rainy season in the country. The people have sowed—with or without financing—and this is praiseworthy. Many producers sow even if they have no financing—God knows how they do it—and the rainy season is helping them.

The fact that resources being withheld in the United States were released will also help us. Coffee prices are not helping much because they are still low. The fact that the flow of foreign aid is gradually being reduced, above all U.S. aid, will be no help either. Why? Because the aid to Russia is now a priority. They.... [pauses] President Clinton pledged to send a large amount to Russia, I think it was either $1.6 billion or $1 billion. The last time I was in Washington, in May, I told some U.S. congressmen and U.S. Administration officials: How ironic. You are now giving priority to Russia, which was one of Nicaragua's main donors barely three or four years ago. If you are now helping the country that helped us, imagine how we are right now! Nevertheless, you are cutting our aid and all aid to the Central American and Latin American countries, so you can give it to Russia.

Although they share our opinion, the truth is the world is not necessarily ruled by logic. It is ruled by political interests and it is clear that the U.S. Government and especially President Clinton are currently very interested in Russia achieving stability and continuing its liberalization process. Why? Basically, so Russia can destroy its military arsenals. If Russia destroys its military arsenals, the United States would have the satisfaction of reducing its military expenditures. If the United States reduces its military expenditures, President Clinton would have more resources for health, education, roads, new bridges, and other investments. If Clinton manages to do this, his reelection is feasible.

If, however, President Clinton is unable to reduce the U.S. military expenditures and to direct those funds to improve the domestic economic situation and give more answers to the U. S. people, he will not be reelected. How

is this goal achieved? Contradictory as it may seem, it requires that Russia be stable so that, for example, a government does not come to power that will stop the ongoing liberalization process in Russia and block the weapon destruction process. This would force the United States to maintain costly military expenditures.

Nicaragua is like a pawn in this large game of international chess and political interests. This is the plain truth. That is why it is really irresponsible for people to make efforts to get the U.S. Congress to cut the aid to Nicaragua. It is easy to get the aid cut. It is, however, difficult to get the aid back. You know this is true. It is easy to tear up something that was glued together, however, it is not easy to put it back the way it was. As a government we have managed to get it to stick. We have managed to unfreeze the aid. Definitely, however, we are immersed in this big U.S.-Russian dynamic that currently gives priority to the aid going to that part of the world. We can see what the future has in store for us, that is, why we, internally, have to adjust our growth goals to those conditions—international prices, (?eligibility), and foreign resources. All these factors have an influence on our economy.

As for the economic program, we could say that it does not necessarily need adjustment. Our economic plan is clear. Our economic program is to look for growth. We will never stop those efforts. Many people ask themselves: What is the government's economic plan? It is to promote the growth of our economy. We must create jobs and economic activity because if we have more of the latter we will have more jobs, business ventures, and more taxes for the government. Government would then use those taxes to do better things in the sectors of health, education, and roads.

How do we grow? This is where we return to our initial question. We grow by bringing in resources, working harder. What would you do? We must promote things that encourage the entry of needed resources. A simple law, such as the one approved by the National Assembly at the request of the Presidency of the Republic and private banks, has brought money to the country. We now have seven banks and each has a minimum capital of 10 million cordobas. We now have 70 million cordobas that were not in the country before. Those banks are financing projects. Several farmers are being financed by those banks. This allows the National Bank to have more funds to finance smaller farmers. The law brought capital to the country. We are now thinking along the lines of insurance. Of course, we would have to discuss this at the National Assembly to see if we can bring in some capital in this sector. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] (?Adolfo) Martinez of ACAN-EFE.

[Martinez] [Words indistinct] The Santa Rosa arms cache is being investigated by the FBI, Interpol, and other specialized agencies. Do you think the government will be able to determine who are responsible for those explosives and arms, as well as the documents, found in this stockpile?

[Lacayo] The existence of those arms is clear enough. Facundo Guardado and Salvador Samayoa of the FPL [People's Liberation Forces] admitted in all honesty—albeit a bit late, I would say—that the arms belonged to their organization. Not only that. Once they admitted to the truth, they named 15 other places where they had houses. This is why General Ortega spoke of 16 places and a heated debate, which lasted three days, took place over whether there were 16 stockpiles. Anyway, FPL told us they had 15 sites in Nicaragua. Arms caches were found in four or five of them. Others stored documents, while still others were empty. In all, there were 16 sites.

The arms are owned by the FPL. The documents found contained information on personalities from Brazil, Mexico, and some other places in the world. This reveals that a group in charge of keeping track of these personalities with an unknown purpose operated in the area. The FPL says it does not have anything to with this particular instance. True or false, the sad truth is that we were cheated and we can no longer believe them. They told us they no longer had anything, but they still had four or five arms stockpiles. This is sad because we have trusted the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front and thought they reciprocated. They cheated us. Now we do not know if they are cheating us again. It is clear, however, that Spaniards were involved and associated with the FPL in Santa Rosa, perhaps only in keeping arms there, not keeping track of people. [passage omitted]

[Unidentified reporter] [Words indistinct] demobilized in Miami so they are installing camps both in Nicaragua and Honduras.

[Lacayo] Let them install the camps in Cuba if they want—that is their problem—but they will not install them here. They have no right and they have not requested permission, nor would we give them permission because they would be violating our territory and sovereignty. The Nicaraguans are firm about that.

Referring to the first part of the question, I am sorry that former President Daniel Ortega heard bells [word indistinct] but it is useless. I talked to him on 29 June and asked what he meant. I believe he had already prepared the communique or decided what he would say in the news conference, so he did not change it. That is what happened. The request was submitted by the Sandinist People's Army [EPS]. Approximately one year ago, the EPS asked our Foreign Ministry to support its efforts so Nicaraguan soldiers and officers could participate in peace missions with the UN, considering the Army's new role in a democracy, correctly interpreting the presidency's interests, and in an attempt to compensate the UN for the notable role it played here during the Nicaraguan Resistance's [RN] demobilization process.

I believe there is nothing more beautiful for an Army officer and soldier than to go fight for peace. We saw that here and we enjoyed the benefits of the attitude adopted by Spanish, Brazilian, and Canadian soldiers—particularly the Venezuelan battalion members who were here risking their lives and demobilizing the RN so we, the Nicaraguans, could live in peace. I think that impressed a lot of people in the Army. The EPS said its members want to participate in the UN's peace missions. In fact, this is one way the Army can show the world it is an Army that advocates peace.

At that time we were talking about Yugoslavia. The EPS chief of staff wanted—and we agreed with him 100 percent—to send a delegation of five or even a dozen Nicaraguan officers, who in the United Nations could help advance peace in the (?area). The United Nations replied that the strategy had been changed and that, instead of training members of peace missions to be sent to a few places in the world, the organization would train soldiers of all countries, willing to participate, in their own countries. In other words, Brazilians would be trained in Brazil, Mexicans in Mexico, and Nicaraguans in Nicaragua. The United Nations told us that, since Nicaragua is a very small country, it would be best to have a regional center in Central America to train soldiers and officers of Central American Armies willing to participate in these missions.

We learned that Hondurans wanted this center to be installed in Honduras. In other words, the Hondurans wanted the United Nations to train Central Americans in Honduras. The EPS said: No. Let it be here because it would give us prestige. We are not talking about a mercenary army, but of a UN army for peace.

We are trying to prevent this center from being installed in Honduras. This center will not be a base for a multinational force. If the United Nations agrees to give us this privilege, instructors will come here to train Nicaraguan officers in human rights, logistics, international codes, maybe languages, the basic things an officer requires to be a multinational force member. Trainers would come here and a school would be set up here. We are doing everything possible so, instead of our soldiers and officers having to go to Honduras—a move that would have certain repercussions because there is a U.S. base there, as you know—or Panama, where we do not want to go, either, our men would train here, where we could demonstrate that our country's stability and peace enable us to help other peoples of the world attain stability.

I support the EPS on this stand. Our stand testifies, on behalf of Nicaragua, that our soldiers and officers, who no longer kill each other in local battlefields, can contribute their experiences elsewhere. I even want to say that we described to UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali what we had been doing regarding disarming civilians. He said: This is what we want to do in other countries. Could you people show us what you are doing? I talked with Lieutenant Colonel Ramon Arnesto Soza, head of the Special Disarmament Brigades [BED], who told me: It would be nice if, when we finish collecting all those weapons, we end up working for and advising the United Nations. BED would be proud to work elsewhere in the world burning up rifles and demobilize civilians. All this would make us very proud. Regrettably, former president Daniel Ortega made some rash comments. What he read was a BARRICADA report on our ambassador's request for the United Nations to visit Nicaragua and see if the center can be installed for what is called a standby force. [passage omitted]

A civic committee was established in Matagalpa just the other day. The members do not want to hear about political parties. Why? Because, they say, political parties have not brought any benefits to Matagalpa. They say: We want the road to be repaired so we can deliver our coffee and none of the political parties have requested repairs for the road. One of the parties has requested a mechanism, the other one rejected a standby [preceding word in English], and the other, well.... [pauses]. It is all right. Let everybody ask for whatever they want, but the people only want two or three simple things: good roads, credit for small farmers, water in a community that does not have it, electricity where there is none, and what they see is that the political parties are not bothering with those things.

The polls will, thus, continue to yield the same results: More than 50 percent of Nicaraguans do not want to say for whom they will vote—more than that; approximately 54 percent of Nicaraguans have this position. When they are asked: Who would you vote for if there were elections today? The Sandinists, the National Opposition Union, UNO, or [words indistinct]. More than half of the people polled do not say for whom they would vote.

This should spark concern among the political parties because it means that most of Nicaraguans do not feel the political parties represent them. This is not a unique situation. It is happening in Venezuela and in many other countries too. It is, however, not positive for our young democracy because we need political parties to play an important role. It is positive that political parties defend their positions at the negotiating table. They have to present their beliefs and convince others that their cause is just. They also have to understand when another party has a just cause.

We, thus, do not understand the UNO position of only wanting to talk with the government. We want them to sit at the negotiating table with the other groups. They have to fight it out with the National Workers Front, the Permanent Workers' Congress, the Higher Council of Private Enterprise, the Sandinist National Liberation Front, or whoever. This would make the talks stimulating and rewarding for all.

Someone said, very wisely, at the negotiating table recently: The truth is that everybody has a part of the truth and nobody can say he has the complete truth. The

one who says he has the complete truth is lying. Everybody holds a small part of the truth. The big challenge is to figure a way to unite all those pieces so that we can come up with a truth that will more or less satisfy all of us.

I say more or less because there will always be a certain amount of discontent with the final agreement. The same thing happens when workers go to a labor-management negotiation. They ask for a wage hike, social benefits, this and that and all of the sudden they are told: We will give you four out of your 10 demands. That is enough because, although they logically want all of their 10 demands to be met, it is a good agreement as they have achieved something they did not have before. They managed to get four demands. This is how unions make gains. It is the history of mankind: Agreements are reached by [words indistinct].

My opinion is that it will be regrettable if UNO wants to leave the negotiating table, but we cannot force them to the talks because we would be violating their human rights. I do not think they will leave. They will not leave. Why? Because since May, the government has shown that it is willing to hold talks. The international community has clearly expressed its message. It has clearly expressed its message [repeats himself] They see the government is acting in good faith and has goodwill.

In the case of UNO, we have been sufficiently pliant and allowed them the pleasure of separate talks. UNO says: I want my own dialogue with the government. We tell them: All right, you guys, we will satisfy your whim. UNO says: We want to have Mrs. Chamorro there. We tell them: All right, Mrs. Chamorro will be there too. UNO says: She can leave at the middle of the meeting but she has to be there at the start. We say: All right, we accept this. But, if on top of all that, UNO says: We are leaving because we cannot reach an agreement on UN presence here.... [pauses] as if we were talking about the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front and the Salvadoran Government and as if the case here where [words indistinct]. This smells very fishy. The next day the newspapers would say it was all a whim and we would know who they would be referring to. That is why I say that UNO will not leave. [passage omitted]

We clearly established one thing in our dialogue with the National Assembly: National Assembly issues should be settled by the 92 National Assembly deputies. On 30 June we also said that any changes or reforms to the country's institutions should be carried out in accordance with the people's will, as stated in the elections, and within the legal framework established in the political Constitution and the laws.

Moreover, changes in the Supreme Court, National Assembly, Supreme Electoral Council, Executive Branch, Army, or anywhere else must be carried out within the framework established by the political Constitution and the laws. No more political deals; no more coups d'etat; no more revolutions; no more counterrevolutions.

Nicaragua now has another system and let us hope we do not deviate from it. That is clearly stated in what we signed on 30 June. We stated a democratic development process is currently under way in Nicaragua. That is what we are engaged in. Things are thus settled in a democracy. [passage omitted]

Northern Front Issues Communique on Attacks

PA0307122993 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2200 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Communique from the 3-80 Northern Front Staff issued on 30 June in Quilali—read by Radio Corporacion News Director Luis Mora]

[Text] The 3-80 Northern Front reports the following to the national and international community:

1. The destruction of various electricity plants, Nicaraguan Telecommunications and Postal Services Institute towers, and various state-owned vehicles used for international projects was carried out in reply to the state of siege imposed on the long-suffering people of Nicaragua.

2. We categorically deny we have burned public transportation vehicles or privately owned vehicles because one of the 3-80 Northern Front's principles is respect for private property. The burning of public transportation vehicles and privately owned vehicles is a Sandinist plot so the Nicaraguan people will blame us.

3. We issue a nationwide appeal for all the people to state their position. Let us all join the civilian rebellion.

4. We issue an appeal to all honest policemen and Army soldiers, urging them to join this glorious movement of the people up in arms. We issue a call for unity to all Nicaraguan Resistance brothers.

Issued in Quilali on 30 June 1993.

[Signed] Northern Front Staff: Commander 3-80, Commander Chejal, Commander Esteban, Commander Magnum, Commander Musun

Government Ministry Confirms Mercenaries' Presence

PA0207215493 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 1 Jul 93 pp 1,8

[Report by Oscar Merlo]

[Text] Government Minister Alfredo Mendieta acknowledged current ties between leaders of the "Northern 380 Front" and Cuban counterrevolutionaries who are transferring their camps from Miami to Nicaragua and other Central American countries.

When questioned by a reporter from this newspaper, the government minister said he was aware of a meeting in Miami between "Cuban worms" [counterrevolutionaries] and recontra leader "El Chacal," who operates in the Nicaraguan mountains.

The minister said: "I notified the U.S. Government of the meeting, and they said they would not allow that type of activity (military), at least not within their territory."

Mercenaries Operating in Nicaragua [subhead]

Mendieta did not provide any more details and apologized for departing to act as host for visiting Brazilian Mayor Romeo Tuna. However, the 29 June edition of LA PRENSA, which is owned by President Violeta Chamorro, confirmed the presence of Cuban and American mercenaries in the Nicaraguan mountains.

LA PRENSA correspondent Aberlardo Sanchez reports on page seven of edition No. 19549 a very emotional and friendly meeting he had on 25 June with "El Chacal" and his men.

After describing how well the meeting with "El Chacal" had progressed, Sanchez said: "El Chacal immediately introduced us to Bryan, a Cuban-American troop commander and member of the Tony Cuestas group that recently arrived from abroad..."

The Person Reported by EL NUEVO DIARIO [Subhead]

When questioned, the source that disclosed the information that appeared in the 29 June edition of EL NUEVO DIARIO stated that the "Cuban-American" described by the enthusiastic LA PRENSA correspondent is Tony Bryan, an American citizen and one of the military members responsible for "Alpha 66" and Commando "L".

EL NUEVO DIARIO was able to establish through its international files that Tony Bryan is an African-American who was imprisoned in Cuba during the 1970's charged with hijacking airplanes.

A Cuban newspaper recently pointed out that Bryan was released by the U.S. justice system in 1992 after having been arrested for participating in the attack against the "Melia" hotel in Valladero, Republic of Cuba.

Bryan Is Not Alone [subhead]

According to the source quoted on 30 June by EL NUEVO DIARIO, "Commander" Bryan, who was described by the enthusiastic LA PRENSA reporter, is not alone in Nicaraguan territory. There is also a large group of Commando "L" instructors training "Northern 380 Front" members in sabotage and terrorism techniques.

All that remains to be done now is to find out how the mercenaries are entering the country. Nicaragua's Immigration Department must have information on whether or not they entered through our borders. The issue is also serious if they entered the country through Honduras, because the Chamorro administration has excellent relations with the Callejas administration.

Leal Speaks on Dispute Over San Andres Islands With Colombia

PA0207190093 Managua Radio Nicaragua Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] Foreign Relations Minister Ernesto Leal Sanchez confirmed that the Nicaraguan Government is considering going to the International Court of Justice at The Hague to settle the jurisdiction and territoriality issue of San Andres Island and other nearby cays with Colombia. Minister Leal made that statement to the national press on 30 June prior to his departure for Asia, where he will visit Taiwan, Singapore, and Brunei.

First we will hold bilateral talks with Colombia, the foreign minister explained. If no results are achieved, he added, we will resort to the judicial bodies at The Hague.

Danish Government Forgives Service Payment of Foreign Debt

PA0307155993 Managua Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 0230 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] The Danish Government has officially informed the Nicaraguan Government that service payments on its foreign debt amounting to $5 million are forgiven for the next five years. With this reduction, Nicaragua's remaining debt with Denmark totals $15.5 million. In this way the Danish Government reaffirms its political commitment to continue helping the economic reactivation of the people and government of Nicaragua.

Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Pallais went before the Legislative Assembly's Defense and Government Committee, which is discussing a bill on coastal delimitation. The official also informed the deputies on the Tripartite Commission's work.

[Begin recording] [Reporter Claudia Ciria] The official told the Committee about the need to enact laws to delimit Nicaragua's territorial sea. He added the Foreign Ministry is working on a national strategy that will be backed by all sectors. Once this strategy is drafted, he said, Nicaragua could enter negotiations with those countries with which it has border disputes. Accompanied by Deputy Government Minister Frank Cesar Reyes, Pallais appeared before the Defense and Government Committee to report on the Tripartite Commission's work.

[Pallais] The Commission recommended that we try to get various groups to participate. We have already started working with the information provided by the Army, the Government Ministry, and the Commission. [end recording]

Panama

Endara Postpones Debates on Canal Administration

PA0207230893 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 2 Jul p 1A

[Report by Orlando Mendieta C.]

[Text] After reaching an agreement with the Legislative Assembly Board of Directors, President Guillermo Endara decided to postpone debates on constitutional amendments creating a title on the Panama Canal.

The announcement was made by Assembly President Lucas Zarak, who said that after discussing the matter, President Endara decided not to call special sessions as previously planned. Zarak said special sessions will not be necessary, particularly because some legislators will take advantage of the Assembly's recess to visit their home towns in the interior of the country. Zarak added that the two-month recess that began on 30 June should be used to divulge the contents of the constitutional amendments related to the maintenance and management of the Panama Canal.

Meanwhile, Panama Canal Administrator Gilberto Guardia said the Legislative Assembly should debate constitutional amendments on the operation of the interoceanic waterway "on a priority basis." Guardia said those amendments must be approved in order to maintain the structures of the Panama Canal Commission [PCC] stable, so the Canal will continue to operate efficiently. Guardia said in his opinion the current Assembly should debate the constitutional amendments, so they can be approved by the members of the new Assembly to be installed in 1994.

The constitutional amendments are contained in one title and two chapters, which refer to the creation of the office responsible for the administration of the Canal as an institution at the service of the international public.

The decision to amend the Constitution was made after the Presidential Commission for Canal Affairs recommended to the president the introduction of a title in the Constitution on the responsibility for the administration of the Canal. One of the recommendations made to Endara is that the Canal should be operated without political links for the benefit of the nation, as a main source of income.

The document containing the recommendations was delivered to Endara on 29 June by the commission headed by J.J. Vallarino. The commission was advised by PCC Administrator Gilberto Guardia, the Association of Canal Employees (ASODEC), the Executive Directorate for Canal Affairs (DEPAT), the Planning Ministry, and the Comptroller General's Office.

Vallarino said, in his opinion, it is necessary to approve this title in the Constitution in order to give confidence to Canal users and prepare for the transition of the waterway to the Panamanians who are currently managing the Canal jointly with the United States.

Papo Rejects William Walker's Appointment as U.S. Ambassador

PA0407200993 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 4 Jul 93 p 3a

[Report by Juan Pritsiolas]

[Text] The Peoples Action Party (Papo) describes as "unwelcome" the appointment of William Walker as U.S. ambassador to Panama and regrets Washington continues to view our country as a "warehouse to store officials with unfortunate backgrounds."

This position was announced by Papo Vice President Rolando Villalaz, who said this political organization supports protests by the Society of Jesus, which objects to Walker's appointment.

Villalaz said it is "unacceptable" for President Bill Clinton to appoint as ambassador a person who obstructed investigations into the murder of six Jesuits and their maids in El Salvador.

"If the Panamanian Government followed a consistent position in defense of democracy and respect for human rights it would never allow them to humiliate and insult us with such an aberrant appointment," Rolando Villalaz added.

The Papo vice president said no person with "moral values and dignity" could think a person such as Walker, who showed complicity with "vulgar murderers" in El Salvador, could engage in positive diplomatic work.

William Walker served as ambassador to El Salvador until 1990 and has also served in the same capacity in other Latin American countries. During the Panama crisis the future U.S. ambassador contacted Colonel Eduardo Herrera in Israel and asked him to lead a movement against General Manuel Antonio Noriega.

The State Department requested Panama's approval of Walker's appointment. Only his ratification by the U.S. Senate is pending.

U.S. Bases Closures To Cost Jobs, Investment

PA0307161893 Panama City Radio KW Continente in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Report by Carmen Villamonte]

[Text] KW Continente approached Legislator Leo Gonzalez on the possibility of Puerto Rico becoming the headquarters of the U.S. Southern Command, which coordinates U.S. military activities in Latin America. Currently, the command is in Panama and will conclude its stay in 1999. Gonzalez said the Panamanian Government must renegotiate the Torrijos-Carter Treaty.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] The Puerto Ricans want to get the benefits that we are stupidly letting go, if we continue refusing to renegotiate the treaties regarding the military bases. It is that simple. This fact also deflates the theories of many political analysts, who argue that the military bases have no... [pauses] that the Americans have no interest in maintaining the Southern Command or the military bases. This kills that argument. If they were not interested, they would not open any bases in Puerto Rico. Do not forget that Puerto Rico is U.S. territory and it will be cheaper for them there. We will lose 11,000 jobs and $700 million per year. [end recording]

The Executive Branch must renegotiate the military bases. Gonzalez said the next government will have to decide whether or not to do so.

[Begin recording] [Gonzalez] Panama must leave behind such backward and outdated attitudes and sit down to negotiate a new military base treaty with the United States, simply because it is good business for the two countries.

[Villamonte] What is the possibility that the Legislative Assembly will discuss this issue?

[Gonzalez] This is not the Legislative Assembly's responsibility. It is the Executive Branch and the president who must do it. This president is not going to, but I hope the next president will, and I ask the Panamanian people to vote against any candidate running for president or legislator who is not in favor of renegotiating the bases. [end recording]

Leo Gonzalez stated that it is important to purge the Attorney General's Office and right to remove the two Panama circuit public prosecutors.

U.S. Base Closures Cause Controversy, Apprehension

PA0407131493 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1536 GMT 3 Jul 93

[Report by Fabio Agrana]

[Text] Panama City, 3 Jul (ACAN-EFE)—The future closure of U.S. military bases and the end of the U.S. presence in Panama have created controversy and apprehension among Panamanians, who are discussing whether or not it is advisable to renegotiate an extension of the U.S. stay in Panama, where it contributes more than $500 million to the economy every year.

Puerto Rico caused a scare this week by offering its territory to the U.S. Army Southern Command, which must abandon Panama on 31 December 1999 in compliance with the 1977 canal treaties signed by the late General Omar Torrijos and former U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

For some people, the most negative thing is the economic void that will occur with the closure of 10 bases and other military sites. Others are concerned about the current government's lack of initiative to start negotiations with the United States to settle the situation through a renegotiation of the treaties.

Guillermo Casco Arias, secretary general of the Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement (Molirena), admitted that the bases "undoubtedly" imply a positive economic influence but this will depend on future events.

Casco Arias thinks a negotiation of the U.S. stay "may be possible" if the presence of U.S. troops benefits Panama. He added that the Panamanian Government has not taken the initiative on the issue.

The politician said he doubts the U.S. military will leave Panama "hastily," adding that "if negotiations can be carried out before 1999 to fill the economic void the U.S. troops' departure will cause," then it must be done.

Ernesto Perez Balladares, secretary general of the opposition Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD], said that political organization's position is that treaty compliance must be respected.

"The PRD has always defended Panama's full sovereignty and this necessarily implies the end of the U.S. presence in this country," Balladares emphasized.

Balladares said the departure of military "gringos" from Panama will cause a "drop" in certain prices, including apartment rents in the Panamanian capital.

Ray Bishop, representative of more than 7,000 Panamanians who work on the military bases, insists the Panamanian Government must try to negotiate the continuation of those military facilities with the United States.

"The Panamanian Government must postpone compliance with the treaties until after 2000 because the country needs more time to recover from the economic inertia it suffers," he added.

"We need more time, we are asking for time. It cannot be done in 2000," Bishop emphasized.

The base closures would negatively affect more than 7,000 Panamanian workers, 1,800 contractors, 1,000 Indians who work in restaurants and barracks, 800 maids, 500 craftsmen, and about 9,500 family members who depend on them, Bishop explained.

Bishop stated his concern that, "while other nations like Puerto Rico will receive the U.S. Southern Command once it leaves Panama, groups of politicians and businessmen desperately want the military bases to disappear from Panama because they will benefit personally from it."

Carlos Ernesto Gonzalez De La Lastra, member of an "ad hoc" presidential commission for the canal's administration, said Panama has lost "incalculable benefits" as

a result of the U.S. occupation of approximately 1,676 square km of land on both sides of the interoceanic waterway.

"The U.S. Army has been a retaining wall that has prevented any commercial or industrial activity" within the canal areas, De La Lastra stated.

The Panamanian Government created the Interoceanic Region Authority (ARI) to administer the assets, facilities, and land—valued at more than $30 billion—that the United States will turn over to Panama.

Molirena Legislator Leo Gonzalez has a different viewpoint. He believes his country "is letting a great deal get away" by refusing to hold a referendum on a possible extension of the U.S. presence.

Panama is letting a great deal get away by doing nothing to prevent other countries, including Puerto Rico, from getting U.S. Southern Command headquarters, Gonzalez stated.

He said the government still has time to renegotiate the treaties and get the military bases to remain in the country beyond 2000.

Gonzalez revealed to the media that a group of nine U.S. senators approved a report in which they urge President Bill Clinton to start renegotiating the canal treaties with Panama.

Private Prosecutor Charges CIA Involved in Spadafora Murder

PA0407190093 Panama City CRITICA LIBRE in Spanish 3 Jul 93 pp 40, 22

[Article by Justino Gonzalez Jr.]

[Text] Dr. Arnulfo Escalona Rios has accused the CIA of being involved in the beheading of guerrilla-doctor Hugo Spadafora on 13 September 1985 in the town of El Roblito, Chiriqui Province, near the Costa Rican border.

Escalona Rios, who will act as one of the Spadafora family's private prosecutors in the upcoming trial, said "the CIA is definitively involved in this crime because it did not want to lose one of its best men in Latin America (Noriega), after the DEA accusations implicating him in drug trafficking. [no end quotation mark as published]

According to Escalona, this was one of the factors that quickened the decapitation of Spadafora, who also accused Noriega of being involved in drug trafficking to the United States.

Escalona, who is also a legislator, stated that the two U.S. security organizations had a tremendous fight over Noriega and that the CIA wanted to save him from the drug trafficking charges against him.

The veteran jurist added that the absence of deposed General Manuel Noriega from the hearing, which is scheduled to take place on 6 July at the Palace of Justice in David, Chiriqui, is irrelevant.

"Panamanian legislation establishes that he may be tried in absentia," Escalona Rios continued.

Concerning the defense attorneys' strategy in this homicide case that the former military officers should be protected under the concept of "due obedience, [no end quotation mark as published] Escalona said he is prepared to defeat this legal argument.

Escalona said two persons have been charged with committing the deed. He added they were part of an organization created by the former National Guard to assassinate Spadafora.

Escalona explained that two soldiers have admitted being with Spadafora during the last moments of his life. He identified them as Julio Cesar Miranda, alias Munecon, and Francisco Gonzalez Bonilla, alias Bruce Lee. He said they may be the murderers.

Escalona warned that the truth will surface during the trial because the accused—despite the fact that they were fired during the previous regime—were pampered by Noriega.

"This crime was committed by the National Guard," the jurist concluded.

Argentina

First Quarter Trade Deficit Increases 21 Percent

PY0507154593 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 3 Jul 93 p 5

[Text] (DYN)—Argentina registered a 621.5-million-dollar trade deficit for the first quarter of 1993, substantially greater than the 512.1-million-dollar deficit measured for the same period in 1992, according to figures released yesterday by the Indec [National Institute of Statistics and Census].

Imports for the period hit 4.37 billion dollars while exports trailed behind at 3.75 billion. The rise in the deficit could lead to a worsening of the situation from last year, which ended with a negative trade balance of 2.85 billion dollars.

Nevertheless, UIA [Argentine Industrial Union] President Jorge Blanco Villegas yesterday said the government is working to solve the problems faced by industrialists and those hardest hit by the massive imports. But the president of the Radical Party National Committee's economy commission, Enrique Garcia Vazquez, called for an improvement in the "real exchange rate...by reducing costs and taxes."

Argentina registered a 146-million-dollar trade deficit with Mercosur member countries in the first quarter. This shows a reduction of 67.4 percent from the deficit for the same period of 1992, 447.7 million. The combined trade deficit with the U.S., Canada and Mexico—the North American Free Trade Agreement [NAFTA]—was 571.7 million dollars for the first quarter. Figures show a 5.5 percent growth rate in exports to NAFTA compared to last year, but imports grew faster at 7.4 percent.

Cost of Living Increases; Inflation at 12.3 Percent

PY0507154393 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 3 Jul 93 pp 1, 5

[Text] (NA)—The cost of living rose 0.7 percent in June, bringing inflation for the first half of the year to 5.5 percent, the Indec [National Institute of Statistics and Census] said yesterday.

June's rise brings inflation to 12.3 percent for the last 12 months. Consumer prices are up over 50 percent since convertibility began on April 1, 1991. Wholesale prices fell 0.1 and building costs rose 0.6 percent.

Last month's official 0.7 percent increase in the retail price index allowed the government to achieve their target of keeping inflation under one percent per month. Indec cost of living figures for May showed a 1.3 percent jump, while April hit an even one percent.

The category of food and beverage jumped higher than all others last month, showing a 1.3 percent increase. Health care costs climbed one percent, home maintenance costs and leisure both increased by 0.8 percent, housing and education by 0.3 percent and transportation by 0.2 percent.

Goods and service prices fell 0.3 percent and clothing 0.1 percent.

Within the food and beverage category, vegetables jumped 7.6 percent with lettuce sky-bound carrying a 27.4 percent higher price tag than in May. Carrots were up 7.2 percent.

The subcategory of oils jumped 3.8 percent and cereals 3.2 percent. These increases reflect ever-increasing prices paid for French bread (up 6.2 percent) and flour (up 7.5 percent).

Fruits also took big leaps, with oranges up 17.1 percent, bananas 16.9 percent, lemons 9.2 percent and tomotoes 2.5 percent.

Medicines climbed 2.4 percent. Rents jumped by 1.9 percent and home repairs by 1.5 percent, while gas, water, and electricity costs combined fell by 2.2 percent.

Common Exchange Rate Band Suggested for Mercosur

PY0507162493 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 2 Jul 93 p 22

[Article by "special correspondent" Eleonora Gosman]

[Text] Asuncion—The Mercosur [Common Market of the South] summit ended in an unexpected manner for two reasons: The formal reason is that the four presidents—of Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay—bid farewell to each other after a two-hour luncheon without first giving the traditional news conference. The other reason is that, against all odds, considerable progress was made in two fields: common trade duties and the proposal by Brazil and Argentina to establish an exchange rate band within the trade bloc.

The Argentine negotiators considered yesterday's talks a "triumph." They say the political definition obtained by President Carlos Menem in Washington has had a positive effect: It revitalized the expectation on the Mercosur placing the NAFTA [North American Free Trade Agreement]—the association between the United States, Mexico, and Canada—on a secondary plane. Hector Gambarotta, Foreign Ministry International Trade secretary, justified the new presidential spirit regarding the southern alliance: "As long as the Mercosur is a genuine center of investments and it guarantees the political framework for economic stability in the area, the common market will be a good tool. We believe, by the results of the summit, that the four countries tend to consolidate the pillars of this bloc," he told CLARIN.

That was not all. Gambarotta also admitted that there are other reasons for this new spirit: "The truth is that

the NAFTA is not there, while the Mercosur is two years old. Therefore, relations with the North are in their initial steps."

However, some suspicious commentaries came from the Brazilian side: "The thing is that Argentina realized that the NAFTA does not exist and that it is better to negotiate with the North from here," Brazilian Foreign Ministry sources told CLARIN.

Brazil's change of attitude regarding the exchange rate subject is said to have been promoted by Winston Fritsch, the main adviser to Brazilian Finance Minister Fernando Henrique Cardoso. However, Brazilian officials did not want to discuss the subject further. The Argentines say that Cavallo did not doubt supporting the Brazilian initiative. "The reason is that the Brazilian economic team thinks that the real exchange rate in Brazil will drop and that he businessmen will demand a currency devaluation. If an agreement is reached regarding an exchange rate band in the Mercosur, Cardoso will then have an argument to avoid any devaluation: his obligations with the other three Mercosur partners," it was said here.

However, since this is an incipient subject that will have difficulties, no one dared to publicly say how they imagined that exchange rate band will be. Cavallo already suggested some ideas during a meeting yesterday at noon with his Mercosur counterparts. He more or less proposed to define the magnitude of the devaluation that any of the trade partners intended to introduce by taking into consideration a differential of inflation: It would be expressed by subtracting the minimum exchange rate of the bloc from the inflation rate of the country at stake.

According to the Argentine representatives, and to Cavallo himself, what is sought is to "avoid a competitive devaluation." The Brazilian's are far from agreeing with this scheme. Cardoso was quite clear in stating that any decision in that field cannot" affect the autonomy of the national exchange rate policies." Cardoso said that the Brazilians " must find a mechanism that, will restore a normal trade flow in case of an exchange rate imbalance that may affect the countries' competitiveness." He said it could be compensatory measures "or maybe something else." Cardoso's commnents were interpreted here as a clear indication that "Brazil does not want the exchange rate used as a commercial tool."

The final communique issued by the four presidents is fully optimistic: "We specifically point out the great progress made in the gradual and automatic Commercial Liberation Program." It also points out "the considerable progress made in defining the Common External Tariff."

The summit ended shortly after 1500, after a 3-hour meeting of the presidents, with a recess for lunch. As fairy tales end: "they live happily every after." But the difficult part comes now. There is a lot to negotiate still. It still remains to be seen whether Itamar Franco's government will have enough elbow room in the internal front to negotiate the opening and realignment Franco seems to have promised his Argentine, Uruguayan, and Paraguayan counterparts.

Camilion Downplays UN Training Center Idea

PY0307183593 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 2 Jul 93 p 10

[Text] Defense Minister Oscar Camilion yesterday minimized the possibility of establishing in Argentina training centers for UN blue helmets. President Menem had suggested this possibility during his recent visit to Washington. Camilion conveyed his conviction that the United Nations "has not yet considered the issue" and that "it has no funds allocated for this type of undertaking."

Upon returning to the country with President Menem's entourage, Camilion said that "the subject was not discussed in detail" during the visit. Camilion added: "The subject was raised somewhat casually, and it is still at a very early stage."

During his visit to the U.S. Congress on 29 June, Menem was asked by some U.S. congressmen about the Argentine Government's position toward deploying a larger number of military personnel to areas of international conflict. Menem responded that Argentina is willing to increase its participation as long as it is within a UN peacekeeping force. He made it clear, however, that any such participation must be approved by the Argentine Congress.

Camilion noted that the Menem administration's idea to set up UN training centers in our country "would be viewed with interest by the United States." In keeping with the U.S. position, Argentina would also view this possibility "with some degree of expectation."

Camilion also confirmed that negotiations are under way for Argentina to purchase 36 U.S. Skyhawk planes, to replace those units lost during the Malvinas war. He denied reports that this operation would cost the country $500 million.

Camilion said: "That figure is completely way out of our possibilities." He blamed the press for "distorting the figures" of the operation. Visibly pleased with the results of the visit to Washington, Camilion stated that Argentina "has very serious possibilities" of becoming the winning bidder to supply a fleet of Pampa 2000 planes to the U.S. Department of Defense. He described the Pampa negotations as "his fundamental mission" this time in Washington.

He added: "There is a very large U.S. company dealing in defense equipment that is interested in promoting the Pampa."

Without attaching any urgency to the subject, Camilion said he is not sure when he will appoint the new head of the National Police following the retirement of Commander Jorge Suerz.

Cordoba Governor Says Country 'Gave In' to U.S. on Condor-2

PY0307140493 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 2 Jul 93 p 16

[Text] Cordoba—Cordoba Governor Eduardo Angeloz today complained "about the ease with which the Argentine Government gave in" to U.S. pressure in the case of the deactivated Condor-2 missile project.

"We could have agreed to some kind of solution regarding the recycling" of the Falda del Carmen plant where the Air Force developed the project, "but it is regrettable for the country that the announcement was made by the U.S. ambassador," Angeloz said.

He was referring to the announcement made a few days ago by U.S. Ambassador Terence Todman, who said that U.S. experts would come to Argentina to study how to convert the plant for peaceful uses, despite the many rumors that the United States intended to directly destroy the Falda del Carmen plant.

"To begin with, I would not have given in so easily to the U.S. pressures, as the national government has done, given that it was technological progress involving the creativity and inventiveness of Argentine experts," the governor said.

Angeloz also spoke about President Carlos Menem's visit to Washington.

"I do not doubt that from the political point of view it has been very favorable. The support obtained from the president of the most important country of the world is very valuable political support, which must be acknowledged," Angeloz said.

However, he added, "in other aspects I think that we knew beforehand the negative results regarding the subsidies and the U.S. demands for the medicine patents bill."

"I believe that the patents bill will not be approved and the subsidies will not cease," Angeloz said.

Security Council Reaffirms Orders on Information Collection

PY0207223993 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 2 Jul 93 p 11

[Excerpt] (DYN-NA)—The Interior Security Council yesterday repeated instructions issued by the government last Friday [25 June] to all security forces, ordering them not to conduct "actions to collect information which might damage" individual rights, an official communique said.

The council, which met for two hours yesterday to analyze the scandal surrounding the ideological profile questionnaires sent by police to Greater Buenos Aires schools, said that "there is a terminal ban on the search and gathering of information and intelligence work to monitor citizens."

The information was released by Interior Minister Gustavo Beliz after the meeting of the council at Government House. Federal Police authorities, as well as Coast Guard and Border Guard top brass, attended the talks. "There was no political intention but administrative error," said Beliz, adding that those responsible for the attempt to control student activity "will be punished."

Lower House defence committee chairman Miguel Angel Toma said before the talks that "the government has no political responsibility in the case."

While Beliz reported the decisions taken at the council meeting, the Senate Peronist caucus rejected a request for the interpellation of the minister on the checklists sent to 24 Greater Buenos Aires area schools.

Meanwhile, Buenos Aires police deputy inspector Daniel Cedola, posted at Florencio Varela's first police station, was relieved of his post yesterday, taking up to five the number of officers punished for the ideological monitoring scandal. The Buenos Aires provincial police force is not a member of the security council and no authorities from that provincial security force participated in the meeting.

The order to remove Cedola from his post was signed by provincial police chief Pedro Klodzcyk last Tuesday [29 June] following a complaint claiming that ideological controls were also going on in the district. Cedola allegedly sent a note requesting information on the "main ideologies" of local co-operatives and other institutions in the area. [passage omitted]

Government Bans Entry of Escobar's Relatives

PY0507185093 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1556 GMT 5 Jul 93

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Jul (NA)—Aldo Carreras, population and community relations secretary at the Interior Ministry, has announced that the government has decided to ban the entry of Colombian drug trafficker Pablo Escobar Gaviria's relatives.

Carreras said that "members of Pablo Escobar's family are absolutely prohibited from entering the country under any immigration category."

The ban is namely for the nephew of the head of the Medellin Cartel and other members of his family, currently in Chile, but apparently planning on coming to Argentina.

All border crossing have been informed about this measure based on Article F of the regulations of the migration law which grants the National Migrations Directorate the authority to prevent the entry of people that, for whatever reason, have a doubtful reputation.

This decision was made after several meetings last weekend between Interior Minister Gustavo Beliz and Alberto Lestelle, programming and coordination secretary for the prevention of drug abuse and for the antinarcotics struggle.

Beliz and Lestelle both agreed on the need to prevent the entry of Escobar Gaviria's relatives because "the president's policy regarding these subjects is quite clear: There is no negotiating with drug traffickers and they will not be granted the benefits to which any citizen of any part of the world may aspire." This is stated in a communique issued by Lestelle's secretariat.

Lestelle added that "the members of a mafia family that travel around the world with ill-gotten money cannot spend even a single minute on Argentine soil," and then added that "those investments they say they want to make are stained with the blood of thousands of children that have died with the poison they sell."

The communique then states: "We will continue to fully enforce the law to stop these delinquents from entering the country," and that in Argentina "there is no room for those who are naive about this subject. We must understand that the lives of youths are at stake."

Bolivia

Minister Vows To Meet Coca Eradication Goals

PY0307152593 La Paz Radio Fides Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 3 Jul 93

[By reporter Freddy Mejia Pacheco in Cochabamba]

[Text] Agriculture Minister Osvaldo Antezana has reported that Bolivian Government officials plan to eradicate 5,000 hectares of coca trees and 1,000 hectares of coca seedlings natonwide by March 1994. The Bolivian Government will thus be complying with recent agreements signed with the United States, and the country will be entitled to a financial contribution to balance its balance of payments. Antezana acknowledged, however, that the coca plantation reduction pace had declined in 1993 due to various factors.

The Bolivian Government will have 15 months—and not the 12-month period the U.S. Government had imposed until last year—to comply with the agreement.

Although Bolivian peasants are reluctant to participate in the process, the Agriculture Ministry has tried to keep its commitment to reduce coca plantations. There are now fewer coca plantations, Antezana added. The social impact caused by this operation has been mitigated through various mechanisms.

Antezana yesterday visited the Chapare region to assess the effects of a plague affecting banana trees, and he is expected to return today.

Eradication Considered 'Not Likely'

PY0307124593 La Paz LA RAZON in Spanish 23 Jun 93 p A16

[Text] Cochabamba, 22 Jun (LA RAZON)—Notwithstanding the goals pre-established by the government, it is not likely that a surplus of 5,000 hectares of coca plantations will be eradicated in the Chapare region this year because of the peasants' reluctance and the lack of credibility in the alternative development programs.

Felipe Caceres, leader of the coca growers federation, said that the programs seeking the reduction of coca plantations in the tropical zone are developing very slowly, following the setback suffered by government offers to replace coca production with other products.

"There are several factors for the reluctance of peasant coca producers to respond, as before, to the initiatives of the voluntary reduction programs. In some cases they are no longer interested in the compensation offered, of paying $2,000 per reduced hectare, because that money somehow is confiscated by Umopar [Mobile Police Unit for Rural Areas] policemen," the leader said.

He added that a week ago two coca producers who decided to voluntarily reduce their coca plantations were robbed by antinarcotics police, who took approximately $3,700 from the peasants who had received the money for reducing two hectares of their coca plantations.

Actions of this nature and the lack of fulfillment of government offers to the alternative development programs have discredited the reduction plans.

Less than two weeks ago the government promised to reduce coca plantations by 5,000 hectares in compensation for the disbursement of some $60 million by the U.S. Government earmarked to the balance of payments.

The peasant leaders also recalled that the alternative development programs have had no satisfactory results because workers from the tropical Carrasco region had to destroy their pineapple harvest, which was affected by a plague unknown in Bolivia.

MNR, MBL, MRTKL Establish 'Pact For Change'

PY0507162293 La Paz Radio Fides Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 Jul 93

[Text] Antonio Aranimbar, leader of the Free Bolivia Movement [MBL], has stated that it has not yet been decided whether he will be appointed foreign minister or who will be appointed to the different government posts within the framework of the distribution of power established in the Pact For Change [Pacto Por el Cambio] signed last night by the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement [MNR], the MRTKL [Tupak Katari Revolutionary Movement of Liberation], and the MBL.

Based on this agreement, an MBL member should be appointed to head one of the 10 ministries that will comprise the new administration or to head some under secretariats in any of these ministries. In addition and in compliance with this pact, MBL members should be appointed to head one development corporation, one embassy, two congressional committees, and the first secretariat of the Chamber of Deputies.

Some local journalists have already taken it for granted that Antonio Aranibar will be appointed foreign minister; that Franz Barrios will be appointed chairman of the Chuquisaca Development Corporation; and that Alfonso Ferrufino will be appointed first secreary of the Chamber of Deputies.

The appointment of many other MBL leaders to other government posts are also being mentioned, but Antonio Aranibar has said nothing has been decided yet.

[Begin Aranibar recording] I can neither confirm nor deny these reports, because there is a possibility that those who are being mentioned may indeed be appointed to these posts. For the time being, however, nothing has been decided yet. [end recording]

According to what [virtual President-elect] Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada and Antonio Aranibar explained last night, the main clauses of the Pact For Change signed last night by the MNR and MBL are based on combating poverty, particularly in rural areas; combating corruption by eradicating impunity; and modernizing the government.

Aranibar will now explain the extent of the agreement which contemplates the political characteristics of the parties it encompasses.

[Begin Aranibar recording] The Pact For Change, which intends to be in force until 1997, is structured so that each party will maintain its organization, its objectives, and its own view points. Moreover, each party will take part in the municipal elections and any political event with its own identity. [end recording]

Interior Minister Reaffirms Confidence in FELCN Officer

PY0307003893 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 22 Jun 93 p 7

[Text] Interior Minister Carlos Saavedra has called press reports about Lieutenant Colonel Jairo Zanabria's alleged links to drug trafficking "biased."

The minister said yesterday that Zanabria—the former Santa Cruz departmental commander of the Special Antinarcotics Force (FELCN), who was said to have links to the drug mafia—has been subjected to what he called a smear campaign, noting that he enjoys the government's full confidence.

"Jairo Zanabria is one of my best men, one of my most trusted men, a man who has always given me the right information and has always handled information properly," Saavedra said.

"After some media tried to impugn his image and dignity—which has become a common practice recently—we had to transfer him from Santa Cruz to the post of FELCN commander in La Paz," he added.

A local morning newspaper reported last week that Zanabria had links to drug trafficking, based on alleged FELCN documents that allegedly involved him in illegal activities.

Last weekend, the morning newspaper published a report datelined Trinidad—the capital of Beni—saying Zanabria was transferred to La Paz for investigation purposes in order to clarify his alleged protection of a ring of Colombian and Bolivian drug traffickers.

The minister, who was annoyed, explained that Zanabria was replaced specifically because he could not be on good terms with the press, which began a series of speculation in order to impugn his image.

The minister added: "Unfortunately, he could not be on good terms with the press because he was asked for information that had not been released yet but, however, already had been leaked. This situation gave rise to speculation that he was concealing information for his own benefit or for undercover purposes."

"There are people who deserve my confidence, and I don't think he used this confidence and his post to harm me. This happens on many occasions, but it is not the case of Jairo Zanabria," Saavedra said.

Foreign Ministry Officials Allegedly Forge Documents

PY0507213993 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 22 Jul 93 p 1

[Text] The Foreign Ministry decided yesterday to dismiss Bernardo Inch, under secretary for multilateral and integration affairs, for "having exercised his duties with an evident lack of criteria and prudence."

Inch ordered the delivery of an official passport to a secretariat employee involved in a case of forgery of documents that allegedly ended up in the hands of a weapons trafficker. Moreover, Inch called a news conference last week, although he had been suspended from his duties, at the Foreign Ministry without the ministry's necessary authorization. During the news conference, Inch explained that the order to issue an official passport to the name of former Foreign Ministry employee Jose Luis Lopez, who has been charged with forging official documents, was an "administrative mistake."

Inch also said that Carmen Pereira, in charge of international affairs for the MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left], who was charged by a deputy who asked to remain anonymous with being involved in weapon trafficking, was not guilty.

Moreover, Mirna Palacios, former director of the Foreign Ministry's Diplomatic Immunity and Privileges Department, last night reported that she is being pressured in this department due to charges she made.

She explained that in addition to be being detained at the Attorney General's Office, she was not allowed to communicate with her lawyers and was asked to change her testimony stating that the signature on the passport granted to Pausch was not forged. "They wanted me to declare myself guilty and then let me free." They gave her a two-day deadline before the Foreign Ministry would exert pressure to find her guilty of any other possible crime.

Therefore, Palacios said her arrest is being arranged. "People in the Foreign Ministry are unhappy because I have stirred up the dust there is there. Today (yesterday) they tried to get me arrested...they want to ruin me for having made the charges."

She said she is constantly threatened. In order to safeguard her family, Palacios said she hid her children.

She also said the Foreign Ministry asked her to sign an audit report with blank spaces that would be filled in later. Lastly, she said the Foreign Ministry refused to give her copies of reports on the case so that she can use them to defend herself.

She also referred to the issuance of 20 diplomatic passports.

Brazil

President Rejects Criticisms by Rio Governor

PY0307142393 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2200 GMT 2 Jul 93

[Text] President Itamar Franco has rejected the criticism made yesterday by Rio de Janeiro Governor Leonel Brizola. The governor said that the president is a danger to the people and country, and because he did not receive the people's vote, the upper class is leading him to do what it wants.

In an official note read by Press Secretary Francisco Baker, President Franco responded to the criticisms: Quote: Governor Brizola is currently attacking the president in an attitude contrary to the recent past, while he praises the finance minster, forgetting that there is only one government. Unfortunately this is the case of a resentful individual, endquote.

Concerning Brizola's remarks that he does not trust the government enough to even carry a box of matches, the president said that it could not carry it because the governor has already left it empty.

The note was issued aboard the presidential plane in which the president was returning to Brazil.

President Franco Promises to Pay Itaipu Debt

PY0307022293 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2200 GMT 2 Jul 93

[Text] President Itamar Franco said today that Brazil will pay the debt of the Itaipu hydroelectric dam. He made this statement at a meeting with Paraguayan President-elect Juan Carlos Wasmosy. The report also was released by presidential press secretary Francisco Baker on arriving at the Brasilia airbase.

According to Baker, President Franco talked for half an hour with the Paraguayan president-elect and promised to release a timetable soon for paying the debt. He also said the July payment will be made on time.

The debt of the Itaipu binational entity, which is responsible for the construction and management of the Itaipu hydroelectric dam together with the Paraguayan Government, amounts to $56 million.

The two presidents also agreed that once the new Paraguayan justice minister is designated the two countries will seek an agreement to prevent vehicles stolen in Brazil from being taken to Paraguay. They also intend to set up a cooperation scheme to fight drug trafficking.

President Franco promised to return to Paraguay on 15 August for the inauguration of President-elect Juan Carlos Wasmosy.

Government Announces New Minimum Salary Increase

PY0507180293 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 2 Jul 93 p 17

[Excerpt] Yesterday Labor Minister Walter Barelli disclosed the new minimum salary that will amount to 4,639,800 cruzeiros as of this month. The quaterly salary adjustment for workers under category C (with their collective agreement renewal date in March, July, and November) was adjusted by 100.47 percent minus the 37.63 percent advance increase granted last May. The bimonthly salary increase advance for workers under category A (collective agreement renewal date in January, May, and September) was set at 40.59 percent.

In order to calculate their new salaries, the workers who earn up to six minimum salaries must apply the disclosed percentage to the latest amount on their pay check.

Those who earn more than six minimum salaries, in the case of a quarterly increase, must add the value of their 1 March pay check to the fixed amount of 49,073,819.06

cruzeiros. In the case of an advance, the amount to be added to the salary collected on 1 May is 11,263,300.09 cruzeiros. [passage omitted]

Elimination of Three Zeros From Cruzeiro Announced

PY0307023693 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2200 GMT 2 Jul 93

[Excerpt] The cruzeiro will lose three zeros next month. Finance Minister Fernando Henrique Cardoso said he will submit the proposal for the elimination of the three zeros to the national Congress in the beginning of August.

This information was given this morning in Asuncion, Paraguay, a little before the minister's return to Brazil. Cardoso made a point of stressing that this measure is not part of an inflation control program. It is just a matter of facilitating accounts and the filling in of checks, he said. [passage omitted]

Castro, 21 Other Heads of State To Attend Ibero Summit

PY0507153793 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1838 GMT 3 Jul 93

[Text] Brasilia, 3 Jul (EFE)—Today the Brazilian Government confirmed the presence in Salvador, Bahia, of 22 Ibero-American heads of state, including King Juan Carlos of Spain, who will participate in the Third Ibero-American summit.

The summit will take place on 15 July, the opening day, and 16 July, althought experts of the various governments will meet on 13 July and the Ibero-American foreign ministers will meet on 14 July.

The subject will be "An Agenda For Social Development" proposed by Brazilian Finance Minister Fernando Henrique Cardoso when he was Brazil's foreign minister.

The Brazilian Government today expressed confidence that the Ibero-American leaders' meeting will help establish the North-South cooperation mechanisms in the health, culture, education, and science and technology fields.

This third summit in Salvador, capital of Bahia State, located on the northern seacoast, will gather three of the Ibero-American leaders most mentioned recently, that is, Cuban President Fidel Castro, Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori, and Spanish leader Felipe Gonzalez.

The meeting will be attended by 4,000 guests and will be covered by some 1,000 journalists.

The Third Ibero-American summit will be opened on 15 July by Brazilian President Itamar Franco and Spanish King Juan Carlos.

Police Cited on 'Plot' Against Castro

PA0507013393 Paris AFP in Spanish 2348 GMT 4 Jul 93

[Text] Brasilia, 4 Jul (AFP)—The federal police have no information concerning a plot to attack Cuban leader Fidel Castro during his visit to Salvador, Bahia Department, during the Ibero-American Summit to be held on 15 and 16 July. The police, however, closely watches anti-Castroist groups in Brazil, police inspector Amaury Galdino reported on 4 July.

A report on a probable attack on Castro was carried by the local newspaper CORREIO BRAZILIENSE on 4 July. According to the newspaper, the attack would be perpetrated by "the most radical members of the professional anticommunists, headquartered in Miami."

The Ministry of the Army did not comment on the report, but the newspaper said there is "a code of the operation, which the officers in charge of the matter would rather not disclose."

The Foreign Ministry, also, did not have any information on the plot, which reportedly had been planned by anti-Castro Cubans residing in the United States.

"All of the anti-Castroists living in Salvador or who could still arrive are being and will be watched closely," an Army officer told CORREIO BRAZILIENSE.

Galdino confirmed that "the movement in Brazil of groups that oppose Castro's government, groups that could perpetrate an attack on Castro during the Ibero-American Summit, are being followed closely."

Galdino said the Federal Police already have the names of some persons involved in the plot, but he did not want to reveal them "because the information we do have does not indicate an attack will take place in Brazil."

Jorge Bolanos Soares, Cuban ambassador to Brazil, told the AG News Agency of the Brazilian newspaper O GLOBO that "there is no special security operation" for Castro during his visit.

Bolanos said rumors of plots by anti-Castroist groups have circulated for every one of Castro's trips abroad.

Police To Double Efforts During Castro's Visit

PY0507220893 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 5 Jul 93 p 4

[Text] Brasilia—The Federal Police [PF] fear an attack against Cuban President Fidel Castro may take place during the third Ibero-American summit scheduled for 15-16 July in Salvador. This is why the PF is following the actions of anti-Castro groups in Brazil. PF Director General Amaury Galdino, who leaves his post today, said the PF will double its efforts during the Cuban leader's visit.

Without revealing the names of the anti-Castro groups under PF surveillance, Galdino said they are Cuban

exiles in the United States. The PF is watching any possible attempt on their behalf to arrive in Brazil, he said.

"We know the names of the people involved. We know there are several groups combating the Cuban system that are interested in attacking the president. However, it is not convenient to magnify the issue because the information we have does not indicate any kind of planned attack here," Galdino told O GLOBO.

According to an interview published yesterday by the Brasilia daily CORREIO BRASILIENSE, the Army intelligence service detected a plot to murder Fidel in Salvador. The Army however, did not make any comments about the subject.

According to Cuban Ambassador to Brazil Jorge Bolanos Soares, no special security plan has been prepared for Fidel. He said rumors of attacks spread every time the Cuban president makes an international trip.

"These kinds of rumors turn up every time he travels abroad," he added.

The Bahia PF reported it has no knowledge of any threat against Fidel.

Exiles Say Cuban Government Invented Attack Reports

PY0607030293 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2310 GMT 5 Jul 93

[Text] Sao Paulo, 5 Jul (EFE)—Groups that oppose the Cuban regime have blamed the Cuban Government for inventing information on an alleged terrorist attack against Fidel Castro in order to prevent protest demonstrations during Castro's visit to Salvador, Bahia.

Pedro Ynterian, director of the Brazilian delegation of the Cuba Christian Democratic Party, said today: "The information was planted by the Cuban Embassy because it does not want Brazilian authorities to permit any mobilization by Cuban exiles in Salvador."

"The Cuban Embassy is interested in creating 'suspense' with Castro's visit in order to get more publicity and at the same time neutralize the work or activities of groups of Cuban exiles who arrived in Brazil in the past few days to talk with Ibero-American presidents," Ynterian said in a letter addressed to the Latin American Parliament's permanent headquarters in this Brazilian city.

According to a report published by CORREIO BRASILIENSE on 4 July, Brazilian military authorities received information that an anti-Castro group was preparing a terrorist attack against the life of the Cuban president.

The report says the attack was planned to take place during the third Ibero-American chief of states and heads of governments' summit in Salvador, Bahia State, on 15 and 16 July. The summit will be attended, besides Castro, by the heads of state of 18 Latin American countries and two Iberian countries.

The report was not entirely confirmed or denied by the Brazilian Federal Police, which are in charge of foreign dignitaries' security.

O GLOBO today published an interview with Federal Police Director Amaury Galdino, who revealed that police are watching Cuban opposition movement members, adding that authorities are ready to prevent the entry into the country of Cuban exiles in the United States who belong to radical groups.

Galdino said: "We have information indicating that something is being planned to occur here."

Ynterian, in turn, said the report on the alleged attack was invented by the Cuban Embassy to force Brazilian authorities to repress anti-Castro groups in Salvador.

According to the Cuban Christian Democrat, who is also a member of Democratic Platform—an organization representing Cuban political parties in exile—journalist Danubio Rodriguez, author of the GAZETA BRASILIENSE [as received] article, "has close links to the Cuban Embassy in Brasilia, and the Cuban Government already has invited him to visit the island."

Ynterian said the report that labels foreigners involved in "suspicious activities" as "terrorists" wants Brazilian authorities to prevent any protest demonstration by Cuban exile groups from taking place in Salvador.

Besides the peaceful protest acts against Fidel Castro, human rights group representatives acting in the island and outside it want to deliver a manifesto protesting the human rights situation in Cuba under the present regime to the Ibero-American heads of state.

Ynterian said in his report that Cuban exiles in Brazil are being watched by the Cuban General Intelligence Directorate (DGI) and not by Brazilian Federal Police.

"It is known that the DGI is closely following the activities of various groups of Cuban exiles. Cuban-American Foundation member Luis Zuniga, who is organizing an exposition on human rights in Cuba, is being constantly followed by DGI personnel in order to scare him and learn about his activities," Ynterian said.

Federal Police Director Resigns Over Farias Case

PY0407003893 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2300 GMT 3 Jul 93

[Excerpt] The disappearance of businessman Paulo Cesar Farias has caused the resignation of the Federal Police director. Farias' partner in Brasil Jet, Ricardo Campos, who also is under a preventive arrest order, is outside the country. We have a live report by Luiz Carlos Braga from Brasilia:

[Begin relay] Justice Minister Mauricio Correa today accepted the resignation of Federal Police Director Amauri Gaudino. Before his resignation, Gaudino reported that Ricardo Campos, Farias' partner in Brasil

Jet, who also is a under preventive arrest order, is in Miami. Gaudino said Campos travelled with his family on 24 June, four days before his preventive arrest was ordered.

Some time ago Minister Correa said he had not received a telephone call yet from Farias' relatives or lawyers to negotiate his surrender to Federal Police. [end relay] [passage omitted]

Interim Chief Named; Deal With Farias Denied

PY0607005393 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2200 GMT 5 Jul 93

[Text] Justice Minister Mauricio Correa will not seek an agreement to have businessman Paulo Cesar Farias surrender to police. Also, an interim Federal Police director was appointed today to replace Federal Police Secretary Joao Batista Campello, who was dismissed yesterday, and Federal Police Director Amauri Gaudino who resigned on 3 July.

Federal Police General Coordinator Geraldo Jose Chaves will take over the two positions as interim director and secretary of the National Federal Police. Police Delegate Paulo Lacerda, who was responsible for the investigation of the Farias scheme, did not accept the invitation made by Minister Correa this weekend to take those two positions, saying that because he is a technician it will be better to remain in his post. Minister Correa said the plan is to unify the Federal Police command, and to do this the government will submit to Congress a bill proposing the elimination of the Federal Police National Secretariat.

Regarding the preventive arrest of Paulo Cesar Farias, Minister Correa said there is no agreement with Farias' relatives for him to surrender to police.

[Begin Correa recording] An agreement never existed. This is a story created by the people's imagination; it does not exist. Why an agreement with someone whose preventive arrest was ordered by a judge? He should be arrested. But if he surrenders before he is arrested, fine. [end recording]

Minister Correa said the instruction given to Federal Police is to fulfill the court order and search for Farias' whereabouts wherever possible to arrest him. He said the only guarantee Farias has is the protection of his physical integrity and the right to a special cell because he has a superior course diploma.

Finance Minister Speaks on Mercosur, Other Subjects

PY0207233593 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 2 Jul 93 p 10

[Interview with Brazilian Finance Minister Fernando Henrique Cardoso by ABC COLOR reporter Mario Ruben Velazquez in Asuncion, Paraguay; date not given]

[Text] [Velazquez] Sir, there is talk of the need to renegotiate the Itaipu Treaty.

[Cardoso] Actually, I believe that renegotiation may very well be a distinct possibility if there is some specific point to renegotiate, but I do not see the need for doing so for the time being. We will open negotiations the moment that point is raised.

[Velazquez] And yet there is a concrete request, for example, that seeks authorization to sell Paraguay's share of electricity to third countries.

[Cardoso] Well, I think that will be possible once we have a more firmly established and consolidated common market, in which it will be possible to sell energy to member countries. This will also apply to the Yacyreta hydroelectric dam and other dams, but we should not jump the gun by discussing that.

[Velazquez] Why do you insist that it is still too soon, that the time is not ripe for that?

[Cardoso] I am of the opinion that the renegotiation issue, as well as the other grievances, must be assessed with greater composure. Brazil has always been well disposed toward negotiation, toward listening to proposals. But if at present somebody has some, we should kindly request that person to put them forward so we can discuss them and enter into negotiations. But until now, there has been nothing concrete. Moreover, I believe this issue should be studied at the Itamaraty level rather than at the level of the Finance Ministry.

[Velazquez] To sum it up, you believe the treaty should stand as it is, don't you?

[Cardoso] I believe it has served both countries' because it was instrumental in building a great hydroelectric dam, Itaipu, and in enabling a rapprochement between Brazil and Paraguay. Now Brazil must pay what it owes Paraguay for royalties [preceding word in English] and compensation.

[Velazquez] What importance do Brazil and other member countries attach to Mercosur [Common Market of the South], sir?

[Cardoso] Mercosur will promote an opening drive in each member country that will trickle down to all sectors. Trade unions, for instance, will be able to negotiate with modern companies, in which democracy will prevail. Mercosur will generate interest abroad because it will become a plum area for foreign investments. The common market will amalgamate the four member countries' economies, and the other countries that will eventually join Mercosur will be able to profit from a growing market.

[Velazquez] Let's change the subject; Brazil was, in its time, one of the most stable economic powers in the hemisphere, but now it is faced with myriad difficulties in the economic and social spheres. What happened, sir?

[Cardoso] Nothing whatsoever. Brazil continues to be a great country. The thing is that people have not realized that the Brazilian economy is a considerably open one nowadays. As of today, 1 July, for example, import tariffs will average 14 percent, while in Chile they average 11 percent. This goes to prove that our economy, which is mainly an industrial one, has made great strides toward opening.

[Velazquez] But is the economy stagnating or not, Mr. Cardoso?

[Cardoso] Brazilian exports keep growing at an accelerated rate. This year total exports will amount to more than $40 billion, which in real terms greatly exceeds Chile's GDP [gross domestic product], for example. This shows that our country is thriving. It recorded a 3.5 percent growth rate in the first two quarters of the year. This year's harvest added up to 70,000 metric tons of grain. Therefore, Brazil continues to be a power whose economy is taking off.

[Velazquez] But you must concede that Brazil has a significant fiscal deficit.

[Cardoso] In point of fact there is a huge state, so the main problem lies in government finances, that is all. Inflation and its attendant problems stem from there. Brazil's economy has a lot of go; 60 percent of all the goods that we export are manufactured. Brazil is a very resilient country.

[Velazquez] How is the privatization of state-owned enterprises going?

[Cardoso] We are making progress. Brazil has a large amount of state-owned enterprises, approximately 1,000, because private initiative produced few results. But the time has come now to sell them all. The privatization plan is already afoot, and we already have privatized some 30 companies, including the government's iron and steel industries as well as petrochemical ones.

[Velazquez] What are the medium- and long-term goals of your economic policy?

[Cardoso] Our medium-term goal is to control inflation, but without disregarding the people's welfare and without resorting to protectionist measures or recession.

[Velazquez] How do you intend to meet that target?

[Cardoso] We will meet it because the Brazilian economy's driving force is not the public sector but rather the private one.

[Velazquez] Could you elaborate on that, Mr. Cardoso?

[Cardoso] It is a process, the first stage of which already has been successfully accomplished, that entails, on the one hand, reducing government expenditures. Cutbacks in public spending have amounted to $6 billion of a total $14 billion that could be slashed. It was a very drastic cut.

On the other hand, we are going to implement a policy to put government finances back in order to recover the credibility we have lost.

[Velazquez] What other measures, included in the FH (Fernando Henrique) Plan, do you foresee implementing?

[Cardoso] Fiscal reform. We are going to undertake a tentative overhaul of this tax reform as of October. This is a centerpiece of the government policy to put the economy on its feet again. Besides, we are going to come down heavily on tax evasion, which is astronomical now.

[Velazquez] To conclude, Mr. Cardoso, according to the existing literature in Brazil, 80 percent of the Brazilian population lives in dire poverty. Is that true?

[Cardoso] No, no; 80 percent of the population would be a bit too much. Notwithstanding, it is true that a considerable segment of the population, namely 25 percent, lives in abject squalor. This is a problem that demands an immediate solution. We must fight against poverty, destitution, and that is precisely another government objective.

Police Seize 2 Metric Tons of Cocaine in Rio Grande do Sul

PY0207183293 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1600 GMT 2 Jul 93

[Text] The Federal Police announced this morning the biggest ever seizure of cocaine in the country. More than 2 metric tons of cocaine were discovered in Rio Grande do Sul.

The cocaine was to have been shipped to the Italian Mafia. Ten people were arrested in Mato Grosso do Sul, Sao Paulo, and Rio Grande do Sul.

Regarding this, the largest amount of cocaine ever seized in Brazil, the Federal Police said the traffickers have opened a new cocaine route using the southern part of the country. The 2.1 metric tons of cocaine came from Bolivia by plane, hidden in a shipment of leather, and was taken by truck to Sao Leopoldo, Rio Grande do Sul. From there it was to have been taken to the Rio Grande Port and then by ship to Italy.

The operation to arrest the gang of traffickers involved in the cocaine seized in Rio Grande do Sul was carried out in four states at the same time. Two traffickers were arrested in Sao Paulo.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] The arrests were made practically at the same time in Porto Alegre and Sao Paulo. The two men arrested in Sao Paulo have

not yet been identified. They were arrested at an apartment in the Jardims district and are now being interrogated by the Federal Police in downtown Sao Paulo. Efforts are being made to capture a third man. [end recording]

Release of $115 million for Sugar Mill Owners Approved

PY0507190193 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 1 Jul 93 Section 1 p 10

[By Sonia Mossri from the Brasilia office]

[Text] With Finance Minister Fernando Henrique Cardoso's approval, the Bank of Brazil yesterday released a first installment totalling $115 million to subsidize credits for sugar mill owners. In total, sugar mill owners are scheduled to receive $500 million. The Bank of Brazil has already authorized its regional superintendents' offices to finance sugar cane farming with 60 percent of production alloted to the sugar mills. The finance minister is still refusing to release another $500 million to finance the stock of alcohol that the sugar mill owners have.

Cardoso's team has been unable to overcome pressures for releasing credits to sugar mill owners. In view of this, the Finance Ministry has advised the Bank of Brazil not to publicize the release of these funds at a time in which the government is making efforts to approve measures to cut expenses.

Next week President Itamar Franco will receive a proposal drafted by several ministries defending the need to maintain a permanent subsidized credit line for sugar mill owners. Treasury subsidies inserted in these financing operations total $100 million.

Chile

President Aylwin Orders Replacements

PY0207121593 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Imagen Internacional in Spanish 0100 GMT 2 Jul 93

[Excerpt] Interior Ministry Juridical Adviser Jorge Burgos has been designated under secretary of war. This is one of the appointments approved by President Patricio Aylwin.

Minister Secretary General of Government Enrique Correa has announced that the president accepted the resignation of Planning and Cooperation Under Secretary Alvaro Garcia, a PPD [Coalition of Parties for Democracy] member who will work for Eduardo Frei's presidential campaign. Aylwin also accepted the resignation of Justice Under Secretary Marta Worner, who will run for a seat in the Chamber of Deputies. She will be replaced by Marcos Sanchez, who until today was the under secretary of war. [passage omitted].

Air Force Commander Discusses Argentine Warplane Purchase, Balance of Power

PY0307030993 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 2 Jul 93

[Text] The possibility that Argentina's purchase of 36 fighter-bombers might affect the balance of power in the Southern Cone has been dismissed. The Chilean Air Force commander in chief, General Ramon Vega, said his Argentine counterpart told him about this possible purchase. Gen. Vega said he understood why Argentina wanted to renew its material.

The 36 fighter-bombers that Argentina will buy will serve to replace the 70 planes the neighboring country lost in the Malvinas war more than 10 years ago.

Gen. Vega was asked whether this purchase might upset the balance of power in the region:

[Begin recording] No, no, it will not affect the balance of power. No, no, no, it will not affect the balance of power. The balance is quite relative. Balance is not referred to in terms of numbers, but in terms of... [changes pattern] the balance is produced by everything. It depends on international relations, on the connections established by our Defense Ministry ... [corrects himself] of foreign affairs, on our economy, on our national attitude...er... [hesitates] I believe we are at a good development stage. It is not a matter of equilibrium in terms of numbers, that is, so many planes here and so many planes there. The problem is much more complex. [end recording]

As for the Chilean Air Force's situation, Gen. Vega said its Hawker Hunter planes are expected to be replaced soon, although he did not specify the planes that will replace them. He said the world market offers many possibilities.

The Air Force commander also referred to the Boeing 707 being upgraded in Israel:

[Begin recording] This is a very interesting, novel plane. It is ...er... [hesitates] an air-controlled plane that will be very useful for controlling, for example, drug trafficking in the northern region, taking into account the geographic features of our territory. [end recording]

Gen. Vega explained that it is difficult to detect an unidentified plane from ground radars.

As of 4 July, Vega will be the host of the 33d conference of Air Force Commanders in Chief of the Americas. During the conference, the Chilean delegation will read a report on meteorology and communications.

In addition to referring to the purchase of materials and the conference, Gen. Ramon Vega also answered questions about the trial of soldiers and about relations between the Armed Forces and the government, subjects about which we already have reported.

Argentine Air Force Commander Confirms Skyhawk Purchase

PY0607022493 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 5 Jul 93

[Text] The Argentine Air Force commander has confirmed the purchase of 36 fighter-bomber airplanes. The Skyhawk airplanes will replace those lost during the Malvinas Islands War, Brigadier General Antonio Julia said. Thus, we will again become what we were before 1982, said the officer who is attending the 13th Congress of Air Force Commanders of the American continent in Santiago.

Julia added that he is very good friends with the Chilean Air Force commander, General Ramon Vega, and that they have spoken about the renewal of material. Neither of the two objects to the modernization of the two air forces because we cannot continue flying airplanes that are a real risk, the Argentine Air Force commander said.

Portuguese President Will Not Meet With Pinochet During Visit

PY0307151393 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1134 GMT 3 Jul 93

[Text] Lisbon, 3 Jul (EFE)—The Lisbon weekly EXPRESSO today reports that Portuguese President Mario Soares has informed the Chilean Government that he is not willing to meet Army Commander General Augusto Pinochet during his visit to Chile from 9 to 14 July.

The report, based on "a diplomatic source," is on the front page of EXPRESSO, and it states that the Portuguese Embassy in Santiago has received instructions from Soares.

The Portuguese president does not want the person who was president during the Chilean military regime (1973-1990) to attend the banquet he will host for Chilean President Patricio Aylwin. Soares ordered the exclusion of Pinochet from the banquet guest list, EXPRESSO reports.

The only moment when the Chilean Army commander and the Portuguese president will meet will be during the banquet offered by President Patricio Aylwin in honor of Soares.

The Portuguese president said that he does not wish to greet he who headed the military coup that overthrew President Salvador Allende.

In view of this situation, Chilean diplomatic officials have had to modify the protocol to avoid a meeting between the two.

EXPRESSO states that Portuguese Ambassador to Santiago Jose Miguel Queiros de Barros had preferred that Soares not exclude Pinochet from the banquet guest list honoring Aylwin.

The weekly states that Soares' position is the same as that of the EC chiefs of state when President Patricio Aylwin was sworn in in March 1990.

On that occasion the Spanish chief of state, Felipe Gonzalez, together with other EC representatives, avoided greeting the ousted Chilean president, an attitude shared by some presidents of other Latin American countries.

Three days ago, the Chilean Civilian Household of the Presidency announced that Soares would visit Chile, including Santiago, Valparaiso, and Punta Arenas.

During his first day in the Chilean capital, Soares will pay homage to Salvador Allende at his gravesite and Soares will meet his widow and other relatives.

In Valparaiso, Soares will visit the home of poet Pablo Neruda, who died shortly after the 11 September 1973 military coup.

Soares will visit Chile at the invitation of President Aylwin, who visited Portugal in July 1992.

On that occasion Soares decorated Aylwin with the Order of Freedom, an award received only by King Juan Carlos of Spain, French President Francois Mitterrand, and former Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel.

Foreign Minister Denies Soares Refuses To Meet Pinochet

PY0507214793 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 5 Jul 93

[Excerpts] The poisoned grapes case is one of the priority issues on the agenda of the Chilean Foreign Ministry and the U.S. State Department within the framework of bilateral relations. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma also referred to Portuguese President Mario Soares by denying reports indicating that Soares, who will arrive this week, refuses to meet with Army Commander General Augusto Pinochet. Silva Cimma said:

[Begin recording] [Silva] Officially, the Portuguese report is a journalistic commentary that is not true. Therefore, I categorically deny it.

[Unidentified reporter] [question indistinct]

[Silva] I am saying that I deny it categorically. And naturally President Soares and the Portuguese Foreign Ministry know the connotations and regulations involving a state visit. Therefore, it is obvious that a request of that kind is outside that connotation. Therefore, the frivolous lucubrations made by some people on this matter blaming the Foreign Ministry of wrongdoings because it does not concern itself with this issue shows their frivolity, and that they are not concerned with thoroughly finding out what the Foreign Ministry does. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Regarding the poisoned grapes issue, Silva Cimma insisted on keeping it confidential. But unofficially it has been reported by reliable sources that progress is being made in solving this case. [passage omitted]

Reasons for 28 May Incident, Weapons Sales Discussed

PY0607032593 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Imagen Internacional in Spanish 0100 GMT 6 Jul 93

[Text] The 28 May Army mobilization has continued provoking reactions. The defense minister said many of the Army decrees that were not approved contemplated the sale of arms abroad without identifying the buyer.

The 28 May mobilization occurred because the institutional bridges between the Army and the government were cut, [General Augusto] Pinochet said on the occasion:

[Begin recording] More than 100 documents were not signed by some people. The documents were there as of 1991. That is the reason. It was not our fault. When you do not have the normal bridges you must use [word indistinct]. [end recording]

Today Defense Minister Patricio Rojas and Arturo Frei, Senate Defense Committee vice chairman, explained the reasons why the documents were delayed.

[Begin recording] [Rojas] What happens is that the authorization to sell arms that are no longer used, or new arms, must have a final destination certificate in order to prevent the export of arms to countries that are not involved in the operation.

[First unidentified reporter] Was the lack of fulfillment of this requisite the reason for delaying the decrees?

[Rojas] The delay in presenting the certificates was the reason, yes.

[Frei] The War Secretariat cannot approve the sale of arms if the decree is not accompanied by a final destination certificate. Otherwise, we will be in the same situation created by the sale of weapons to Croatia.

[Second identified reporter] But there were also decrees compensating former security agents.

[Frei] That is correct. There were also some decrees ordering compensation to former security agents that the defense minister had remitted to the Finance Ministry. All these items were discussed between the minister's under secretary and the Army. They were being processed; they were not frozen; the documents were at another ministry for a more appropriate resolution. [end recording]

Foxley Says Figures Show Economy Achieving Stability

PY0507221593 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 25 Jun 93 pp A1, A18

[Text] Finance Minister Alejandro Foxley stated that the latest Monthly Economic Activity Indicator [Indicador Mensual de Actividad Economica, Imacec], which amounted to an annual rate of 6.2 percent in APril compared with April 1992, confirms that the economy is "gradually reaching stability" and probably will grow approximately 6.5 percent per year.

Foxley estimated that this year's trade balance will probably show a deficit of $400 million to $500 million, no higher than can be "controlled and financed" perfectly with the level of reserves the country has, that is, more than $10.2 billion.

The minister added that the balance of payments so far this year shows a surplus of more than $500 million because the country continues to receive a large flow of capital that will allow the government to handle the economy with absolute normalcy this and next year.

Foxley said the slowdown the economy is experiencing is very positive with a slower but quite significant growth over last year, especially because this process has been accompanied by a slowdown in imports.

Foxley also mentioned that the importing of capital goods has increased more than 50 percent, which shows that investments continue while the importing of consumer goods in May is lower than during the first four months of the year. Moreover, consumer credits [creditos de consumo] also have experienced a slowdown, with significantly slower growth than previous months.

The minister said: "Figures reflect, from the macroeconomic viewpoint, that excessive expenditures are dropping. This process will gain strength in the second half of the year, and, from the viewpoint of the balance of payments, we have a very sound situation regarding imports."

Regarding May's exports, he said they were $706.4 million, compared with $852.4 million in May 1992. He said these figures perfectly reflect the situation, which we already have mentioned, due to a drop in copper and cellulose prices, problems in the fishing field and in the export of fishmeal, and difficulties exporting apples and kiwi fruit.

Foxley said that cases such as the shipment of cellulose, unusually low in May, will improve in the next few months and other factors will remain more or less the same the rest of the year.

He said, however, that the level of exports in June will be higher.

Carabineros Discover Hidden Military Weapons

PY0607014593 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 5 Jul 93

[Report by Gustavo Godoy from La Serena]

[Text] The Carabineros Prefecture of Coquimbo this morning reported the following event that occurred under its jurisdiction. The report indicates that on 3 July Carabineros personnel making a routine patrol in the rural area of the 3d Ovalle Carabineros Precinct discovered in an abandoned underground cave the following war material of great destructive power:

Two (TOW) U.S.-made rocket launchers; two RPG-7 Soviet-made rocket launchers; six projectiles for RPG-7 rocket launchers; 11 clips for RPG-7 rocket launcher projectiles; and two M-16 rifles.

The armaments are in excellent condition, can be used, and have a great destructive power capable of piercing armored vehicles.

Carabineros also reported that several operations and an investigation are being carried out by special Carabineros personnel to search for more armaments, and to find their origin and the people responsible for hiding them. No one involved in this case has been arrested yet. No major details were given about the site where the arms were found in order not to obstruct the investigation.

This case was reported to the 2d Military Court of Santiago through the La Serena Military Prosecutor's Office. The Carabineros Prefecture requested the cooperation of the community in providing information on this case if they have any because it might be important. The information will be kept confidential.

This radio station learned that the exact place where the arms reportedly were found is in Punitaqui, about 80 km southeast of Ovalle. This station also asked if this case has any connection with the arms found several years ago in Carrizal Bajo, but Carabineros officials did not confirm or deny this possibility.

Parties Agree To Field Joint Ticket in December

PY0307172593 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 3 Jul 93

[Text] The National Renewal Party [RN], the Independent Democratic Union, UDI; and the Center-Center Union [UCC] today agreed to nominate a joint congressional list for the December elections. The agreement was concluded at 0300 this morning.

Among other points, the agreement states that UDI and UCC representatives will run on different tickets in the Seventh Region and that Francisco Javier Errazuriz will not seek the presidential nomination.

It has also been agreed that Andres Allamand will run for deputy in Las Condes.

The agreement adds that the issue of the presidential candidacy will be decided by presidential hopefuls Manuel Feliu [RN] and Jovino Novoa [UDI].

National Renewal Vice Chairman Outlines Party Objectives

PY0507194893 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 Jul 93

[Telephone interview with Alberto Espina, National Renewal Party vice chairman, by unidentified reporter—live]

[Excerpt] [Reporter] Alberto Espina, vice chairman of the National Renewal Party, is a deputy who has worked intensively in fulfilling his party responsibilities. It is very cold today and he left home this morning to take his daughters to school. He said the temperature was 1.3 degrees centigrade outside, thus coinciding with a weather forecast announcing that the temperature was below zero. Good morning, Deputy Espina.

[Espina] Good morning, Sergio. And not only that, the streets are frozen and drivers should be warned to be careful and not engage in traffic accidents.

[Reporter] Does this cold weather contrast with the heat inside the National Renewal Party on the occasion of congressional negotiations?

[Espina] Well, any negotiations to reach an agreement has its positive and negative aspects. Positive because our party must be at the level of current circumstances, and this means to achieve the consolidation of a congressional pact of the central right, which is essential to maintain a political balance in congress. If the political forces in congress are not fully balanced, an enormous electoral disaster can take place tomorrow in the country with nefarious consequences.

And negative because the largest parties are the ones granting the greatest concessions. And National Renewal has made great sacrifices to achieve this unity, and I have no doubt that we are going to obtain an electoral result in terms of deputies and senators that will consolidate us again as the main political party of the central right.

[Reporter] The opposition has achieved a congressional agreement which has served as the headlines on radio and television, but it does not have a single candidate. Now we have this subject which will also become a hard nut to crack. How much sacrifice can your party make, because [National Renewal Chairman] Andres Allamand has said that Manuel Feliu was unnegotiable?

[Espina] Well, what happens is that we have reached a political agreement which is called the Union for the Progress of Chile, and this means that at the presidential level we are going to establish as soon as possible a procedure to nominate the presidential candidate of the coalition. And we are going to work to achieve this

procedure which we hope will be equitable and representative of each political party.

I want to be very frank: The idea is to have a single candidate. We are not ruling out the possibility that such agreement could fail and that at the end we could end up with more than one candidate. For this reason we have adopted the system of a double option. But our commitment is to seek a system that will lead us to nominate a single presidential candidate, and we are going to strive for this energetically and resolutely to finally conclude successfully this preparation period.

[Reporter] Considering your own words, Espina, you had to pay a dear price in terms of congressional elections. Will there be a price also in the presidential elections?

[Espina] Definitely not. We in the congressional elections...

[Reporter, interrupting] But Feliu is your candidate to the end.

[Espina] Well, National Renewal has promised to participate in a procedure for the designation of a candidate. And that is what we are going to do. But the negotiations are beginning to yield the expected results, namely in the most important aspects. We will continue negotiating the principles which are essential for unity. This is going to be the basis of our negotiations. [passage omitted]

Government Satisfied With Progress in U.S.-DPRK Talks

PY0207212393 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 24 Jun 93 p C2

[Text] The [Chilean] Government yesterday expressed its satisfaction with the progress achieved in talks between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States, as well as with the terms of the joint communique issued on 11 June.

The communique's central ideas are guarantees against the threat and use of force, including nuclear weapons; peace and security in the denuclearized Korean peninsula, with the impartial implementation of broad safeguards; mutual respect for the two nations' sovereignty and nonintervention in the domestic affairs of each state; and support for the peaceful reunification of Korea.

A communique issued by the Foreign Ministry states that Chile considers the Korean Government's decision to suspend its withdrawal from the Nuclear Weapons Nonproliferation Treaty a constructive step in the fulfillment of the established objectives.

It adds that although our country is not a treaty member, it considers the fulfillment of the contracted commitments of great importance and firmly supports the nuclear nonproliferation cause.

Colombia

Security Reinforced at Chilean Embassy

PA0507023793 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0130 GMT 5 Jul 93

[Text] A few minutes ago security at the Chilean Embassy was reinforced following the charges made by Chilean Ambassador Arnoldo Jaramillo regarding threats against him and other Chilean diplomats in Colombia. At this very moment, the street on which the embassy is located has been closed to traffic in an attempt to prevent a terrorist action. Several police officers are guarding the Chilean Embassy. The ambassador's residence is also under heavy security.

Search Group Said Closing In on Escobar

PA0307185793 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1800 GMT 3 Jul 93

[Text] We have a last minute report. The Army commander has announced that the siege against Pablo Escobar is closing in. At this hour, a series of operations is being carried out in Medellin apparently aimed against Pablo Escobar in El Poblado area.

The Search Group at 1200 on 3 July raided a farm in the semirural Envigado area and captured four people in a quick action in southern Medellin.

More than 100 men from the combined Search Group and Military Police forces participated in the operation. Two National Police helicopters and some artillery fire were used in this operation to prevent a possible response from the farm's residents.

The Search Group has not reported the names of those arrested. The operation was personally directed by the Search Group commander.

Escobar Family Asks Consulate for Relocation Help

PA0207191893 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Jul 93

[Report by Raul Gutierrez]

[Text] Nicolas Escobar, son of Roberto Escobar, alias El Osito, and nephew of Pablo Escobar Gaviria, and other members of the Escobar family who are currently in Santiago, Chile, have asked the Colombian Consulate help them find a country that will accept them. They claim that their lives are in danger and that their passports give them the right to travel freely.

[Begin recording] [Foreign Minister Nohemi Sanin, identified by screen caption] We must respect the self-determination and sovereignty of all countries. Every country has the right to decide who can remain, and who

must leave. But obviously we must take a humanitarian position. Everyone has the right to ensure respect for their lives.

[Unidentified reporter] The Escobar family members have asked for help at the Colombian Consulate in Santiago, Chile. What will the Colombian Government do?

[Sanin] In the past few hours they have asked the Colombian Government to contact a government that will be willing to receive them. I will discuss this matter with the president of the Republic. [end recording]

Army Captures EPL's Moreno in Bucaramango

PA0407154693 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1800 GMT 3 Jul 93

[Text] The 5th Army Brigade has captured one of the most important leaders of the Popular Liberation Army [EPL] in Bucaramanga. Luis Alberto Moreno Munoz, the organization's ideological leader, was found spying on his former comrades, now militants in the Hope, Peace, and Liberty movement. According to the Army, Luis Alberto Moreno Munoz was the ideological leader of that EPL dissident group and second in command under Francisco Caraballo.

[Begin General Ricardo Cifuentes recording] We received a report. One of the district prosecutors in Cucuta requested his arrest and he surrendered without resistance. [end recording]

According to the report, Moreno was being processed within the rebel organization on treason charges for stealing 60 million pesos. He had no price on his head and military intelligence is deciding how much of a reward to pay the informer involved.

Paraguay

Protocol Accepting Paraguay as GATT Member Signed

PY0207155993 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 2 Jul 93 p 5

[Excerpt] The protocol accepting Paraguay as a GATT member was signed yesterday in Geneva (Switzerland) despite Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay's previous opposition. The document was signed on behalf of Paraguay by Ambassador Luis Gonzalez Arias.

Paraguayan Foreign Minister Alexis Frutos Vaesken stated that the new members of Congress will be asked to ratify the issue. The document will then be submitted to the GATT headquarters in Geneva and 30 days later Paraguay will start enjoying the benefits of the GATT.

Argentine Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella noted the significance of Paraguay's entry to the GATT because, in addition to being positive, Paraguay was the only Mercosur member country that did not belong to this organization. [passage omitted]

'Hastily' Compiled Schedule of Mercosur Presidents Noted

PY0207152793 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 2 Jul 93 p 2

[Text] This latest meeting of the Mercosur [Common Market of the South] presidents was carried out in a rush and was the shortest of all the meetings that have been held since the Treaty of Asuncion was signed.

The chiefs of state met for only three hours between 1100 and 1400. [Argentine President] Carlos Menem, for example, already had one foot on the plane's ladder when the joint declaration was being signed. It seemed as though his mind was still on his contact with Bill Clinton, and that Mercosur in Asuncion was just a stopover on his return to Argentina.

The meeting between the "partner presidents" concluded three hours ahead of what was scheduled in the official program, and the declaration of the "four," which should have been signed at 1700, was signed immediately after the luncheon at 1400 in deference to Carlos Menem, whose plane already had its engines running in order to depart at 1500. This is more than enough to prove that everything was done hastily, maybe to comply with protocol.

Many said that the semi-annual meeting of the Brazilian, Paraguayan, Argentine, and Uruguayan presidents was merely a gesture of courtesy to say good-bye to [Paraguayan President] Rodriguez, who in 45 days will hand over the presidency to his successor, Juan Carlos Wasmosy.

Others denied that the meeting was held exclusively to address impressive words of acknowledgement to the person who permitted democracy to survive in Paraguay, because the Mercosur schedule already foresaw this meeting in Asuncion.

Anyway, it is nice to document the very short stay of the partner chiefs of state in our country. In Menem's case, it was a record: He arrived at 0700 and departed at 1500. [Uruguayan President] Luis Alberto Lacalle was in the country for 20 hours, including the overnight hours, and [Brazilian President] Itamar Franco stayed for less than 24 hours, including the overnight hours.

Absence of Bolivian President at Mercosur Meeting Viewed

PY0207154393 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 2 Jul 93 p 2

[Text] The latest meeting of the chiefs of state of the Common Market of the South [Mercosur] countries was carried out so hastily that the participation of Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora was certainly not justified.

Paz Zamora was to have participated in the continued negotiations pertaining to Bolivia becoming a member of the integrationist bloc.

Paz Zamora was preparing to be the fifth president at the meeting when it was reported that he would not be able to travel due to prior commitments. After what happened on 1 July, there was speculation in media circles that Paz Zamora had prior information that the meeting of the "four" would be pure protocol and that he decided that, under those conditions, it would be better not to try to obtain Bolivia's participation in Mercosur, that he preferred to wait for another occasion when his words would be received with interest and a more profound study.

In Bolivia's case there was no lack of diplomatic voices, like those of the Brazilian delegation, who indicated that the prospect of a fifth member joining the integrationist bloc was very viable. The voices indicated that this neighboring country, and even Chile, will be the bloc's next partners.

Sources of the Paraguayan protocol department that prepared the meeting's schedule were also surprised by "the hastiness" with which the meeting concluded, attributing the decision to the participating chiefs of state.

President-Elect Denies Proposing Mercosur Postponement

PY0307001093 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 2 Jul 93 p 6

[Text] Paraguayan President-elect Juan Carlos Wasmosy yesterday asserted that the timetable to set the Common Market of the South [Mercosur] in motion will not be postponed, although he reiterated that so far, the macroeconomic policies have not been coordinated. Wasmosy met with Presidents Luis Alberto Lacalle of Uruguay and Carlos Saul Menem of Argentina. Today Wasmosy is scheduled to hold a working breakfast with Brazilian President Itamar Franco.

Explaining comments made during his recent visits to Brazil and Argentina, Juan Carlos Wasmosy yesterday asserted that during his government Paraguay will respect the timetable established for the implementation of Mercosur.

He asserted that he never said anything about postponing the regional integration process. In this regard, on 12 June Wasmosy told the media: "Politics means reality, and if this (Mercosur) cannot be achieved by 1995 it will be achieved a little later. We must not hurry. It took Europe 40 years to consolidate its common market. Our economies are quite different; therefore, I feel that if we do not coordinate our macroeconomic policies, it will be difficult to achieve this objective."

The working groups agreed to approve 90 percent of the package of products to be included in the Mercosur trade list and to postpone approval of the remaining 10 percent until later.

Wasmosy stated, however, that the macroeconomic policies of the countries that signed the Asuncion Treaty still have not been coordinated and mentioned that the fact that Brazil still is unable to control its inflation is worrisome.

When local and international journalists insistently asked him to explain what he meant, Wasmosy denied ever proposing to the Mercosur member countries' presidents to postpone its implementation, scheduled for 1 January 1995.

Wasmosy said: "You are the ones talking about a postponement. What I said is that we must not despair if we are unable to coordinate some of the points of the agreement."

Yesterday Wasmosy had breakfast with Uruguayan President Luis Alberto Lacalle at the residence of the Uruguayan ambassador in Asuncion. Lacalle said at that time he was against postponing the Mercosur timetable.

Lacalle said: "The content of the decisions that will be implemented in 1995 probably should be adjusted to reality. But I think that the timetables and dates should not be modified. The dates allow the countries to better prepare themselves."

He also admitted that there might be exceptions to Mercosur's success.

Lacalle stressed: "The important thing is that it really be a success because it is very easy to be successful on paper. What we need is for integration to multiply the well-being of our people. This is the objective that we must bear in mind."

President-Elect Wasmosy Visits Congress Presidents

PY0207175193 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 2 Jul 93 p 9

[Text] President-elect Juan Carlos Wasmosy around 1200 on 1 July visited the Congress building to greet the new presidents of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies, Evelio Fernandez Arevalos, and Francisco Jose de Vargas, respectively.

Fernandez Arevalos told the president-elect that there is a climate of cooperation for the common good and there is no possibility of conflicts if the executive and legislative branches fulfill their functions well. "I am sure that we will have reciprocity in this aspect," Fernandez said.

Wasmosy said that dialogue must characterize the new era in the Republic, adding that he hopes it will be possible to promulgate laws benefiting "all citizens, foreigners, and peasants."

Unemployment was another issue "on the table" during the visit. Wasmosy pointed out that the need to gain credibility in order to entice investors, "thus adding value to our products, and fighting unemployment."

Regarding education, Wasmosy called on legislators "to support everything in favor of education in order to improve the standard of living of our citizens." Wasmosy added that ignorance is one of the major challenges of the new government.

At the end of his visit to the Senate, Wasmosy met with Francisco Jose de Vargas. The president-elect told De Vargas that the doors of government palace will be open "to all that is beneficial to our people."

De Vargas guaranteed that all Executive Branch proposals to improve the situation of the Paraguayan people, "as I predict they will be," will be supported by the Chamber of Deputies, adding: "I am sure that all party blocs will cooperate without faction distinctions."

De Vargas added: "We will be the staunchest supporters of the executive in its task to improve the fatherland and to raise the standard of living of the people. Relations will be the most cordial ever seen in Paraguay's political history."

Opposition Wins New Senate, Chamber Presidencies

PY0107031893 Asuncion Cerro Cora Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Excerpts] Senator Evelio Fernandez Arevalos of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party [PLRA] was today elected president of the Senate and the Paraguayan Congress. He has become the first opposition congressman to head the legislative branch in nearly 50 years of domination by the Colorado Party.

Fernandez was elected thanks to votes by members of the PLRA bloc, the National Encounter [EN] bloc, and the [Luis Maria] Argana-led Colorado Reconciliation Movement. Fernandez obtained 27 votes while his contender, progovernment Senator Juan Manuel Cano Melgarejo, obtained 13 votes. [passage omitted]

Here are the final results of today's Senate votes:

For Senate president: Evelio Fernandez Arevalos, 27 votes; Juan Manuel Cano Melgarejo, 13 votes.

For first vice president: Carlos Romero Pereira, 30 votes and 14 abstentions.

For second vice president: Basilio Nikiphoroff, 28 votes and 15 abstentions. [passage omitted]

Similarly, the opposition managed to have its candidates elected to the Chamber of Deputies' board, thanks to the votes of eight deputies who are Colorado National Reconciliation Movement members.

PLRA Deputy Francisco Jose De Vargas is the new Chamber of Deputies president; EN Deputy Euclides Acevedo is the first vice president; and Luis Gonzalez Macchi, of the Colorado Reconciliation Movement, is the second vice president.

The three votes taken in the Chamber of Deputies yielded similar results:

For Chamber of Deputies president: De Vargas obtained 50 votes, while his progovernment Colorado opponent Conrado Pappalardo Zaldivar obtained 29 votes. There was one blank vote.

For the first and second vice presidents, Acevedo and Gonzalez obtained 49 votes while their opponents obtained 28 votes, and there were two blank votes. A total of 79 votes were cast. Thus, the Colorado Party's internal dispute has reached the Chamber of Deputies. The dispute became particularly obvious during the election of the second vice president between progovernment Colorado Deputy Dario Palacios and Luis Gonzalez Macchi, a dissident Colorado deputy for Asuncion who was the opposition alliance's candidate. [passage omitted]

House Committees' Chairmanships Determined

PY0307191193 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 3 Jul 93 p 6

[Text] The Chamber of Deputies Executive Board and the leaders of the different blocs in Congress met yesterday to decide the membership of the 22 lower house committees. The chairmen of most of the committees were mostly assigned to the opposition bloc, which is made up of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party [PLRA], National Encounter, and Argana faction of the Colorado Party. Thus, the pact of understanding excluding the official bloc has been ratified through the distribution of the most important posts.

Of the 10 chairmanships assigned to the Colorado Party, the Argana followers will occupy six, while the officialist Colorados will remain with four, such as the Indigenous and Ecologic Affairs Committees.

The Chamber of Deputies plenum will meet on 6 July to officially announce the committees' composition.

Luis Alberto Mauro, leader of the National Encounter bloc, who was appointed chairman of the Media Committee, yesterday told HOY that the three opposition blocs have agreed to head the committees in an alternate manner in the next three years.

"The agreement establishes that the chairmanships will this year be presided over by the liberals; next year it will be the National Encounter's turn, and the Argana faction members will preside the following year.

"The agreement envisages to first review the laws pertaining to the Council for Magistrates and the military organization, which were approved in the last congressional term," Mauro said.

"If the executive branch proclaims these draft bills we will immediately present other alternative draft bills," Mauro added.

The PLRA will preside over the following eight committees: Economic and Financial Affairs, headed by Magno Castillo; Foreign Affairs, by Martin Sanemann; Agriculture and Livestock, by Gilberto Vazquez; National Defense, Security, and Internal Order, by Hermes Rafael Saguier; Industry, Commerce, and Tourism, by Ludmila de Sanchez; Public Health, by Jose Zarza; Budget, by Atilio Martinez Casado; and Credentials and Regulations, by Hermes Chamorro.

The National Encounter will head the committees of Legislation and Codification, presided over by Marcelo Duarte; Media, by Luis Alberto Mauro; Municipal Affairs, by Mario Esquivel; and Energy, by Gustavo Candia.

The Argana bloc will preside over the following committees: Constitutional Affairs, which will be headed by Luis Gonzalez Macchi; Justice, Labor, and Social Security, by Julio Fanego; Education, Culture, and Worship, by Juan Jose Vazquez; Public Works, Services, and Communications, by Walter Bower; Social Development, Population, and Housing, by Aniceto Overlar; and Rural Welfare, by Zacarias Vera Cardenas.

Senator Confirms Split in Colorado Party Bloc

PY0307191693 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 3 Jul 93 p 6

[Excerpt] Senator Carlos Romero Pereira, candidate for Colorado Party bloc leader, has stated that the progovernment party faction is trying to divide the party and that party president Blas N. Riquelme "is under fire because he wants us out, but it seems that there are people who want to get rid of him as well." Romero Pereira added that it is a fact that there are two Colorado Party blocs in the Senate.

Asked whether it is possible that Luis Maria Argana's supporters will be brought before the party court of honor, Romero Pereira answered that the members of the Colorado Party Reconciliation Movement "will defend themselves."

He added: "It is obvious that the objective is to divide the party; this will have consequences for those who want to bring us before the court of honor. We will defend ourselves, we will take whatever steps are appropriate."

Asked about Riquelme's remarks that he had invited Argana's supporters to a dialogue, Romero Pereira answered that such dialogue would be pointless.

He stressed: "I do not see much point to this dialogue because it is obviously that the party president (Riquelme) is under fire. There are some people who want us out and others who do not. It even seems that there are those who want to remove him as well, so I believe that there is some complicated maneuvering going on within the Colorado Party executive board."

Asked about the events during the first session of the Senate when Colorado Party senators split into two blocs, Romero Pereira answered that undoubtedly "this is a fact."

Romero Pereira concluded: "There are marked differences between the two blocs, especially regarding their grasp of democratic procedures and the complexities of the process that Congress will go through during this legislative period."

Arevalos: Executive, Legislative Branches Must Coexist

PY0307213993 Asuncion NOTICIAS in Spanish 3 Jul 93 p 6

[Text] Evelio Fernandez Arevalos, Authentic Radical Liberal Party senator and the new chairman of Congress, stated that the legislative and executive branches must coexist. He said that there would be no clashes between the two branches because Paraguay has a presidential system of government, and also because "we all want to do what is best for the country."

Fernandez emphasized that it is important to make sure that the country is ruled according to the Constitution and the state of law, for which he has faith in the maturity of the Paraguayan political class. He said the position to which he has been elected is a great responsibility and a great honor, and promised to do his best "as long as my colleagues, the other senators, help me."

Taking into account that the opposition has a majority in Congress, Fernandez Arevalos was asked if this would be an obstacle to the executive branch. He said that the two powers must coexist (this word defines a situation where the executive power has a determined tendency and the majority in Congress a different tendency).

He explained that this coexistence in our country is perfectly possible, first of all because it is a presidential system of government in which the two powers can perfectly well be of different tendencies, and second because we all want to do what is best for the country.

Based on that reality, Fernandez Arevalos said there would be no clashes if the executive and legislative powers do their work in accordance with the Constitution.

When he was told that the government bloc said his election was not legal because the government is also a majority and deserved at least the first vice presidency, Fernandez Arevalos said this is a personal opinion he respects but does not share. He added: "In fact it seems to me that the opposition is the majority because it is more than 60 percent. On the other hand, this type of election is based on conscience, and is not made for groups but for people and their merits."

Regarding a campaign to discredit Congress, Fernandez Arevalos said this would be really regrettable. He indicated, however, that Paraguayan society can produce antibodies to make those people figures of a past that has been overcome.

Rodriguez Urges Military To Maintain Unity

PY0507221993 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 5 Jul 93 p 2

[Text] "I am sure that the Armed Forces' unity is a guarantee for the democratic process. That is why we must always remain united, so that our people may live in freedom and enjoy prosperity," President Andres Rodriguez said today during a breakfast at the Engineering Command.

This morning Rodriguez attended the birthday celebration of General Jose Miguel Gimenez C., head of the Engineering Command.

After Gen. Gimenez thanked the president for his presence at the ceremony, Rodriguez spoke to those present. In a brief address, he referred to the Armed Forces' unity to safeguard democracy in Paraguay. "I have little time left as Armed Forces commander in chief; for this reason I want to deliver a humble message. I ask you all to always be respectful, disciplined, and obedient, and to maintain good conduct so there will never be disagreements among you. In this way we will always be zealous guardians of democracy, as is the duty of our military institution," President Rodriguez said.

Oviedo Denies Split Within Armed Forces

PY0507233393 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 5 Jul 93 p 2

[Text] When asked about the call to unity among all military members made by President Andres Rodriguez, General Lino Oviedo said that as members of a nondeliberating institution, the Armed Forces' members obey all the decisions imposed by the Armed Forces commander in chief, be he civilian or military.

The 1st Army Corps commander denied that the president's call for unity is due to any split within the military community, adding that Rodriguez always has spoken about unity and harmony among the Armed Forces' members.

When asked about the probable creation of a new Colorado Party, he answered that he did not want to make any political or partisan declaration: "I do not want to give the least opinion about the subject," leaving it to those who participate in party politics.

As for the intention of Congress to modify the Military Organizational Law approved by the last Congress, Oviedo said he is not a member of the working team and the military will obey the decisions made by the legal authorities.

Regarding the Armed Forces Organizational Law, he said that the responsibilities of the president of the Republic as Armed Forces commander in chief cannot be questioned because they are clearly established by the national Constitution. "No law contradictory to the Constitution will be valid; therefore, the commander in chief's responsibilities are safeguarded. He organizes the Armed Forces, appoints and dismisses all its members, and is responsible for running the Armed Forces," Lino Oviedo said.

As for the possibility that the Wasmosy administration may decide to dissolve Congress, Oviedo said he cannot make predictions and that if he had to, he would do it objectively and wishing the best for the institutions and the country. "My mind will never consider anything that will affect the institutional life of our dear Paraguay," he said.

Oviedo also rejected the idea that the Armed Forces would exert pressure on the president-elect, and he recalled the assertions made by military chiefs saying that the Armed Forces will be zealous guardians of the national institutional life.

As for his probable retirement, he said that, "say what you will," his merits cannot be taken away from him. He reminded that such an attempt must be done legally. "There must be a trial, a military court, or ordinary justice to determine whether I must go into retirement. Then, there is the commander in chief," Oviedo said; however, he will not oppose any decision.

He also denied the possibility of running as a candidate for president of the Republic, and said he did not even consider it. He also denied saying that one must guard oneself from the media.

Peru

Fujimori Visits Ica, Announces Review of 'Terrorist' Cases

PY0307001893 Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 23 Jun 93 p 8

[Article by Ica correspondent Humberto Fajardo]

[Excerpts] Ica, 22 Jun—President Alberto Fujimori announced that the national attorney general will, as of now, review very thoroughly all cases of terrorism to verify the authenticity of accusations of that presumed crime and to prevent innocent people from being unjustly sentenced.

In a surprise visit to this city, the president provided five buses and 50 computers to San Luis Gonzaga National University, and after being greeted in a magnificent manner by thousands of students from that university, he offered to donate 100 more computers and 10 more buses, in addition to a fishing boat and microscopes. [passage omitted]

President Fujimori made a surprise visit to this city early in the morning, coming from Castrovirreyna, Huancavelica Department (where he spent the night), aboard an Army helicopter. [passage omitted]

At 0800, the president began his tour by visiting the Cachiche prison, located in the district that has the same name, where he ordered the immediate opening of the prisoners' dining room that, although it was fully equipped with all kitchen equipment, has never been used for the 20 years since it was dedicated. [passage omitted]

To the surprise of President Fujimori himself, and without waiting for any order, the prisoners formed several columns in a disciplined manner in the prison's main square and chanted the national anthem, followed by the National Police hymn. Among those prisoners there were many who are accused of terrorism, and in this manner they voiced their repentance to the president. [passage omitted]

In the women's department, he promised the possibility of amnesty to four elderly prisoners accused of illegal drug trafficking. On leaving the Cachiche prison, he said he always will demand tough measures for terrorists, but added that no one who has not committed that crime can be sentenced.

"These cases must be thoroughly studied to prevent abuses or injustices," he told reporters who asked him about the fate of an Ica reporter falsely accused of being a terrorist who has been held in custody for 90 days in the courthouse's detention area. [passage omitted]

Fujimori Tours Villages With Japanese Journalists

PA0207185093 Lima Global de Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 2 July 93

[Text] President Alberto Fujimori accompanied a delegation of Japanese journalists on a tour of five villages in the southern region. First they visited Rinconada de Pamplona in San Juan de Miraflores, where the Army Engineering Battalion has been working on several projects such as road resurfacing and clearing land to construct a modern school and athletic courts.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified resident] We saw how they advanced.

[Unidentified reporter] Did you think that they were going to work so quickly?

[Resident] We did not know it was going to happen. It was all a surprise for us.

[Fujimori] The changes we are making here, as in many other towns, will be better than what was outlined in the 1979 Constitution. That Constitution said beautiful things, but in reality... crap [previous word in Quechua]. [crowd laughs] Now we want to make the people's well-being a reality. [end recording]

The president was accompanied by a delegation of Japanese reporters who were invited by the Peruvian Promotion Committee as part of its campaign to improve the country's image abroad. The president later visited the (Culluzca), Villa Indoamerica, 1 de Mayo, and 19 de Julio neighborhoods in Villa Maria del Triunfo.

Fujimori on Escobar Relatives, Fight Against Drugs

PA0407182493 Lima Global de Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 4 Jul 93

[Text] President Alberto Fujimori has said that orders were issued to prevent Nicolas Escobar, nephew of Colombian drug trafficker Pablo Escobar, from entering the country:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified Reporter] Mr. President, international news reports indicate it is possible that relatives of drug trafficker Pablo Escobar will be heading for Peru. Chile denied them permanent residence and Argentina will reportedly do the same. What is Peru's position?

[Fujimori] Our position is very clear. We have defined our counternarcotics policy and reached agreements with the United States on farmers from coca leaf producing areas. We do not regard them as criminals. We, however, are involved in a front-line struggle against those involved in drug marketing, that is, drug trafficking. Our position is well known and we enforce it strongly. [end recording]

Legislators on Fujimori Remarks on Constitution Debate

PA0407205693 Lima Global de Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 3 Jul 93

[Text] Democratic Constituent Congress [CCD] members from several parties responded to criticism by President Alberto Fujimori, who said work at the assembly is slow.

[Begin recording] [Julio Diaz Palacios of the Democratic Left Movement] President Fujimori has confused his government plan proposal for this limited time in history with what a constitutional text should be to allow the people to make long-range development plans.

[Carlos Ferrero Costa of New Majority-Change 90] In discussing the congressional regulations, I proposed that we work continuously. Henry Pease Garcia, Enrique Chirinos Soto, and Antero Flores-Araoz Esparza asked for that to be changed to full time only, that means eight hours. The CCD approved the change with my single dissenting vote. I was left alone. We must return to that system in August, as we have begun to work more often on the Constitution issue in plenary debates.

[Alexander Martin Kouri Bumachar of the Popular Christian Party] An agreement exists stating that we

must begin our article by article debate on constitutional issues on 6 July. More than a matter of methodology, I think this is a matter of respect for all the different opinions that exist about constitutional matters in our country.

[Victor Joy Way of New Majority-Change 90] If you examine what happened on 1 July, which was practically a talking competition about irrelevant issues and not the Constitution, I think Fujimori is absolutely right and I agree fully. I think we should work from 0930 to 2300. [end recording]

Counterterrorism Directorate Presents 14 MRTA Members

PA0407181193 Lima Global de Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 3 Jul 93

[Text] On 2 July the National Counterterrorism Directorate [Dincote] presented to the media 14 Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement [MRTA] subversives. Their capture led to the identification of MRTA members operating abroad.

The MRTA terrorists were captured on 10 June during Operation Falcon as they were carrying out actions under direct orders from the restructured MRTA National Executive Committee.

The following were presented at Dincote headquarters: Marina Gamboa Masiso de Vilar, 54, alias Comrade Aurelia; Teofilo Aparicuba, Comrade Lobo, 52; Eduardo Diaz Canales, Comrade Raul; Yanira Bautista Saavedra, 26; and Marta Bautista Cabrera, 24.

Jorge Herrera Sarmiento was reported to be in charge of coordinating contacts abroad. Teodora Rodriguez Mota, who was among those who escaped with [MRTA leader Victor] Polay from the Castro Castro Prison, and Arquimedes Torres Rara were in charge of communications. Ada Franco de Estares was responsible for regional committee activities.

The following were reported to be responsible for regional committees: In Ica, Alfonso Santiago Leon; northeast Lima, Daniel Granados Reimondi; and southeast Lima, Johnny Romero Panses. Luis Alberto Martinez was reported as leader of operations in Lima. Americo Silvonio Conde, 43, a member of the National Executive Committee, was responsible for mass activities and mobilizations abroad.

Weapons, explosives, propaganda, police uniforms, and two vehicles were seized in the operations. Communications and broadcasting equipment was dismantled.

Young APRA Leader Opposes Creation of New Secretariats

PY0207022293 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 21 Jun 93 p A7

[Text] Young APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] leader Hernan Garrido-Lecca commented that the creation of 14 new secretariats represents a regrettable setback in the attempts to modernize and revitalize the party.

In commenting that such a large (43 members) National Executive Committee (CEN) will only turn it into a bureaucratic organization, Garrido-Lecca announced that in the next few days he will submit proposals to APRA Secretary General Armando Villanueva on how to administer the party.

As EXPRESO reported, Villanueva has created 14 new secretariats and two general secretariats. It was learned that initially he had thought of creating three regional under secretariats to be headed by Cesar Zumaeta for the Eastern Region, Guillermo Larco Cox for the Northern Region, and Jorge Lozada Stambury for the Southern Region.

In the certainty that the CEN only needs 10 or 12 members to function adequately, Garrido-Lecca, representative of his party's renewal faction, disclosed that some of the members who uphold the party's modernization will go to the interior to meet with the provincial grass roots to discuss the need to review the APRA's principles and administration.

In making his commentaries on the new CEN members, Garrido-Lecca said the appointments represent a contradiction of the APRA authorities, who have said they are against the presidential reelection proposal because they believe it is time to start getting rid of political leaders to give the ideas and institutions a chance. The young APRA member noted that most of the new secretaries are old-time leaders.

For example, he said the presence of Alfonso Ramos Alva on the Ideology and Doctrine Committee is unjustified because he is against the APRA's modernization.

Aprodeh Reportedly Campaigning Abroad Against Government

PY0307001693 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 22 Jun 93 p A3

[Text] In a clear attempt to prevent Peru from obtaining aid from countries that comprise the broad organizations that grant donations to the poorest people, the Peruvian Human Rights Association (Aprodeh) has sent a lengthy letter to foreign representatives questioning the government's work in this area.

However, they do not directly propose that aid be suspended, but that it be channeled "through people's organizations and nongovernmental organizations so as to guarantee distribution among the poor, and to prevent this aid from being used by the government for political or military purposes."

In summary, they propose that nongovernmental and "people's organizations" be charged with the distribution.

In the lengthy document, Aprodeh also voices its concern about the current economic handling of the country that, in its opinion, "has had a negative impact on the social and cultural lives of all Peruvians."

Aprodeh also accuses the Fujimori government of using donated social aid for "political purposes" to gain followers in exchange for food distribution. Supporting that, however, Aprodeh refers to figures showing the growth of expenditures earmarked for emergency programs. Between January and July 1992, this expenditure reportedly reached $12 million monthly; a figure that reportedly increased to $24 million monthly between September and November, on the eve of the congressional elections; and that reportedly dropped to $13 million after the election, the letter says.

Aprodeh also questions the distribution of food in poor neighborhoods by Army members, which is part of the antisubversive strategy, stating that those activities are "a distribution by the Armed Forces in situations of conducting illegal home searches and arbitrary arrests." It adds that the measure "seeks to calm the population and prevent them from rejecting the violation of the right to freedom, to the privacy of homes, and to an impartial trial."

CCD Invitation To Discuss Draft Constitution Rejected

PY0307003593 Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 23 Jun 93 p 4

[Excerpts] The decision made yesterday by the CCD [Democratic Constituent Congress] Constitutional Committee to call a debate on the new draft constitution was acknowledged with skepticism and rejected by leaders of partisan organizations not represented in Congress. Labor union leaders reacted in a similar fashion. [passage omitted]

Representative leaders of the Popular Action, Liberty Movement, and the PUM [Unified Mariateguista Party], in different tones, stated that the Constitutional Committee's decision "will be assessed" but, in other cases, it was flatly rejected.

Among those who rejected the initiative are the Liberty Movement, through Political Committee member Miguel Cruchaga, who emphatically stated that his organization "will not join the process surreptitiously if it didn't join it openly during the elections."

Cruchaga said: "We issued a public declaration stating our position 10 days ago and will stick to it." [passage omitted]

Popular Action [AP] Under Secretary General Javier Arias Stella, who was approached in view of the absence of AP leader Fernando Calmell del Solar, did not reveal any expectations or enthusiasm.

He bluntly said that he still has not been informed about the official decision, and that if they receive it, it will be studied and assessed by the Political Committee headed by former President Fernando Belaunde Terry.

However, he recalled that the Popular Action did not participate in the elections for the CCD precisely because this organization is a result of the 5 April coup.

Arias Stella added: "I do not want to make any comments yet; we will only look into this matter after we receive the invitation."

PUM Secretary General Javier Diez Canseco stated that during a partisan meeting they will decide whether or not to participate in the debate once they receive the invitation.

He noted, however, that the invitation is for seven days before the committee ends the debate and 37 days before the CCD approves the draft bill, according to the established deadlines.

"I think that the invitation seeks only to comply with protocol and conceal the fact that the CCD has failed to comply with the law designed to gather suggestions, opinions, and criticism from people and institutions. The CCD has not complied with this law."

He added: "This invitation only seeks to cover up this situation at the last moment with no enthusiasm and in a very irresponsible manner."

CTP [Confederation of Peruvian Workers] Under Secretary Jose Ramos pointed out the need to listen to workers' concerns and opinions.

"The Constitution is being drawn up in a very hasty manner. The workers have great expectations regarding the labor chapter, which does not guarantee job opportunities nor labor stability." [passage omitted]

Committee Amends Presidential Reelection Article

PY0307001493 Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 23 Jun 93 p 3

[Article by Luis Alberto Chavez]

[Excerpts] The Constitutional Committee on 22 June approved an amendment permitting immediate presidential reelection and the possibility of running again after at least one presidential period.

The concept of the article published in yesterday's edition of EL PERUANO thus was changed in a significant way. The newspaper published a supplement on 22 June carrying the official version of the constitution entitled "Second Draft of the New Peruvian Constitution." Article 172 of this draft constitution says: "The president can be reelected only once." [passage omitted]

Land reform and the possession of land was left for "the law to establish limits (to land ownership) according to the peculiarities of each area."

This article is very important because it permits the establishment of limits to land ownership and thus will prevent a few individuals from concentrating unlimited land areas in their hands.

APRA Invites Parties To Reject Draft Constitution

PY0307004093 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 24 Jun 93 p A6

[Excerpt] Implicitly rejecting the invitation of Congress to discuss the Constitution, the APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance Party] yesterday called on all political parties to form a "civic front" and "to raise the flags of insurgency" by campaigning for the "no" option against the new constitution.

Veteran APRA leader Armando Villanueva del Campo, who yesterday reappeared after recovering from a high-blood pressure crisis, justified the appeal by saying that the government—which he labeled dictatorial—intends to approve a "false constitution in order to impose an autocratic system."

During an afternoon news conference yesterday in the APRA headquarters on Alfonso Ugarte Street, Villanueva also announced that he finished his so-called "restructuring of the APRA National Executive Committee," through which he managed to appoint well-known Alan Garcia followers Carlos Roca Caceres and Benigno Chirinos as general under secretaries of the party, besides making other appointments in different secretariats.

During a long speech at APRA headquarters, Villanueva said the goal of the parties must be "to safeguard human rights and national dignity," stop "wild capitalism," and defend the regionalization process.

"Let us carry together the banner of insurgency, which is the same thing as carrying the banner for the no option," Villanueva said as he invited the political parties to hold meetings to coordinate actions.

Although he did not mention parties, it is known that the invitation was meant for the Popular Action Party, the PPC [Progressive Christian Party], the FIM [Independent Moralization Front], the Sode [Solidarity and Democracy Party], Frenatraca [National Workers and Peasants Front], the PUM [United Mariateguista Party], etc., and that he excluded officialist groups like New Majority-Change 90, which he labeled "antidemocratic and defenders of autocracy." [passage omitted]

Communities To Administer Justice Under New Constitution

PY0207121793 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 24 Jun 93 p A6

[Excerpts] Peruvian indigenous and peasant communities will administer justice according to their customs in their respective jurisdictions, with the support of the Peasant Defense Patrols, as long as they do not violate human rights.

This is established in an article unanimously approved yesterday by the Constitutional Committee of the CCD [Congressional Constituent Congress] under the chapter on the judicial branch. Several congressmen stated that the move is an innovative and progressive premise in the juridical field.

The idea, which was approved during the morning session, came from the Investigations Center of the judicial branch. It was not made law previously due to an omission. [passage omitted]

The CCD also agreed to modify Articles 117, 118, 209, 240, and 289 of the Constitution project. Article 117 establishes that the economy minister must submit to the CCD plenum the budget of his ministry. Article 118 suspends the prohibition on Congress and the budget committee to modify the budget draft bill prepared by the executive branch.

Articles 209 and 240 establish that the judicial branch and the attorney general's office must present their budget requirements to the executive branch and to Congress. This principle suppresses the attribution initially given to them to present their budget requirements only to Congress.

Yoshiyama, Torres Win CCD Support After Censure Vote

PA0207192893 Lima Global de Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 2 July 93

[Text] On opening the 1 July session at the Democratic Constituent Congress [CCD], the opposition wing presented a motion to censure CCD President Jaime Yoshiyama, and another against Carlos Torres y Torres Lara, president of the CCD Constitution Committee. Victor Joy Way, a member of the board of directors, had to preside over the meeting. The issue was brought up because of the recent controversy over a communique amending news reports, which was published without proper prior approval. As was to be expected, the government constituents rejected the criticism and approved a resolution in support of CCD President Yoshiyama and his directors, including Carlos Torres. The opposition wing abstained, except for Congressman Fernando Olivera Vega, who voted against the support resolution.

[Begin unidentified congressman recording] All those in favor please raise your hand. There are 48 votes. One vote from Mr. Olivera. The motion carries. [end recording]

Once the incident was over, Jaime Yoshiyama reassumed his place at the head of the debate, amid applause from the government coalition. The morning session was adjourned after declaring the CCD in permanent session

to seek agreement on rules and methodology for the debates, among other issues.

[Begin unidentified congressperson recording] We sustain the need specified by a previous agreement that this constitution is to be submitted to a general referendum. This way we will not be playing with any cards up our sleeves that we can pull out after the debates. Instead, we will clearly say that we are ratifying the international commitment Peru assumed and the criteria for convening this Congress. [end recording]

Military Materiel Bought by APRA Government 'Disappeared'

PY0207133493 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 24 Jun 93 p A3

[Excerpt] Defense Minister Victor Malca Villanueva reported yesterday that the APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance Party] of the Alan Garcia administration spent more than $100 million on purchasing military weapons and equipment, much of which have disappeared from the military warehouses and installations together with the documents that accredited the purchases.

During his address to the subcommittee of Bids, Contracts, and Execution of Public Works of the CCD [Congressional Constituent Congress] Budget Committee, the defense minister said that these purchases were made under the label of "secret military materiel."

It has been learned, however, that the purchases include several plots of land, departments, cars, and even clothes through which APRA officials had incurred in serious irregularities. All officials involved, including former defense ministers, will be summoned by the CCD subcommittee in the next few weeks to testify.

During the session, which was held behind closed doors yesterday, Defense Minister Malca said that between 1985 and 1990 the government purchased equipment worth more than $100 million. He added that during his time as interior minister within the current administration he checked the Interior Ministry files in vain for documents to prove such purchases, and in some cases the equipment and weapons that were allegedly bought have disappeared.

CCD member Mario Ocharan (PPC) [Progressive Christian Party], reported that these purchases were made under Supreme Decree 003 proclaimed in April 1989—during the Alan Garcia administration—through which the requirement to call public bids for the purchase of goods or services under the "secret military materiel" was suspended. [passage omitted]

Chilean Ambassador, de la Puente on Lima Convention

PA0507033793 Lima Global de Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 3 Jul 93

[Text] Chilean Ambassador Alejandro Magnet has announced that the date for a meeting between the presidents of our two nations will be set as soon as the Lima Convention Agreements are ratified. Moreover, Oscar de la Puente, president of the Council of Ministers, said the agreement favors both Peru and Chile.

[Begin recording] [Magnet] The date has not been agreed upon. It could be next month or it could be later on this year.

[Unidentified Reporter] Perhaps in Baia, during the Ibero-American Summit?

[Magnet] No. We want President Alberto Fujimori to go to Chile. The two presidents will surely see each other during the Baia summit, but the idea is for President Fujimori to make an official visit to Chile.

[Reporter] Ambassador, [words indistinct] official visit or will a specific issue be discussed?

[Magnet] Well, the idea is for President Fujimori to go to Chile for the ceremony at which we will exchange the ratification documents on the agreements that have been signed, plus other general cooperation agreements that are being studied in the economic and administrative sectors.

[Reporter] Does this mean the president cannot go until the Peruvian Congress ratifies the document?

[Magnet] Well, we are waiting for the ratification of the treaties, so this may provide an occasion for the visit.

[De la Puente] The Lima Convention signed with the friendly Republic of Chile ends 64 years of inactivity. Thousands of millions of dollars have been invested to protect the borders due to a warmongering attitude between two friendly countries. Enormous amounts of money have been spent on this instead of using it for development of the border towns. In this case the ratification of these conventions will allow us to use resources for the development of communities located on either side of the border.

[Reporter] There are [word indistinct] who oppose this.

[De la Puente] They have been misinformed. The virtues and comparative advantages of the Lima Conventions give Tacna an unprecedented and extraordinary potential for development.

[Reporter] Is the issue being manipulated by politicians?

[De la Puente] I think it is simply the result of the people's desire to figure prominently because they never had the opportunity to appear a lot in the public eye, because they lack the presence, or because they have

never excelled in anything. They misinform the people in an effort to earn the reputation they do not have. [end recording]

Germany To Resume Economic Cooperation Programs

PY0107205593 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 22 Jun 93 p A3

[Excerpts] The German Federal Parliament (Bundestag) has decided to resume all economic cooperation programs with Peru and enhance them in the future.

This announcement was made by Bundestag Speaker Rita Suessmuth to Peruvian authorities on 21 June after an explanation given by Congressmen Victor Joy Way, Enrique Chirinos Soto, and Xavier Barron, who are in a congressional delegation paying a two-day visit to Germany.

Acknowledgment

Suessmuth indicated that this decision was made as a confirmation of the restoration of a fully democratic institutional system in Peru, as an acknowledgment of the results achieved in the process of reintegrating Peru into the international financial community, and as a result of the results achieved in the country's pacification.

Addressing the congressmen, the Bundestag speaker pledged her government's support for Peru at a board of donor countries meeting that began yesterday in Paris. In this meeting, Peru hopes to secure assistance for social programs.

A similar announcement by the Japanese Government was disclosed on 20 June.

Among other points, Suessmuth also expressed interest in learning the details of the advancement made in the field of respect for human rights in Peru. [passage omitted]

Visit

At the invitation of the CCD [Democratic Constituent Congress], a Bundestag delegation will visit Peru in August to check the development of the democratization process and respect for human rights under the Fujimori administration.